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Middle East & North Africa

Vol V No 76 *19 April 1978*

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PLO SPOKESMAN ON U.S. PLOT IN SOUTHERN LEBANON

JN181435Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1240 GMT 18 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 18 April--'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, official spokesman of the PLO Executive Committee, has stressed that the imperialist conspiracy against the Palestinian revolution, Lebanon and Syria through Lebanon has not ended. In a statement to the newspaper AL-BA'TH published here today, he said that the hostile imperialist and Zionist forces and circles linked to them or in agreement with their interests are acting to explode the situation in Lebanon again in a feverish attempt to strike at the peace march there. They are acting to exert pressure on the Palestinian revolution and Syria and to start new diversionary battles with the aim of distracting attention from the Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon so as to eliminate the obstacles standing in the way of the capitulationist course which the United States is seeking to impose on the Arab area. They are also doing this to cover up the negotiations which 'Ezer Weizman and other Zionist enemy leaders are conducting to solve the Arab-Israeli conflict within the framework of Israeli-U.S. interests.

Abu Mayzar pointed out that the PLO is alert to these dangers and attempts. Thus, the PLO is working to foil these attempts and to avoid involvement or getting dragged into the attempts to explode the situation in Lebanon. He said that Palestinian-Syrian coordination is aimed at insuring the strongest guarantees to foil these hostile schemes.

Abu Mayzar said that the situation in Lebanon is fraught with continuous dangers. Thus, nationalist and pan-Arab duty dictates that we double our vigilance and caution.

Abu Mayzar said that the Arabs have to realize that the occupation of their land and the continued usurpation of the Palestinian people's rights is a U.S. decision carried out by Israel, which receives its price from the United States. He said that if this fact is not understood, the Arab political thinking and the Arabs' concept of the Arab-Zionist conflict and U.S. relationship to this conflict will remain mistaken.

On Syrian-Palestinian coordination, Abu Mayzar said that it is aimed at foiling hostile plans. He said: As is known, we were and still are concerned about Lebanon's sovereignty, independence, the integrity of its territory and the unity of its people. We are concerned about strengthening Lebanese-Palestinian fraternity because we believe that our presence in Lebanon is exceptional and imposed by the condition of our people's being deprived of their homeland and property by the Zionist enemy. The prouder we are of the national honor of defending southern Lebanon and bravely repulsing the Zionist enemy, the more concerned we will be about eliminating this occupation as soon as possible. We believe that the Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon is a menace to us, Lebanon, Arab security in general and Syria's security in particular.

BAGHDAD VOP ATTACKS 'ARAFAT'S 'COMPROMISING' IN LEBANON

JN182028Y Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1820 GMT 18 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Brothers: Suspending the fighting with the Zionist enemy; facilitating the task of the UN emergency force; leaving the UN force and the Lebanese authorities, who are allied with the fascist and isolationist rightist forces, in control of affairs in Lebanon; withdrawing fighters from Lebanese towns and villages, thus restricting the Palestinian military presence; turning the revolution into a mere information activity; and cutting off links with the Lebanese Nationalist Movement--all these are the new practices of 'Arafat and his clique.

In whose interest are these measures being taken, especially at this critical stage when the armed struggle, the masses of the armed struggle and the course of the armed struggle are being exposed to attempts of liquidation from all sides?

In short, we say that these practices by the 'Arafat leadership serve only the big conspiracy in which 'Arafat has become one of the bloody instruments. This conspiracy will fail miserably so long as the rifles of our Palestinian and Lebanese fighters continue to be aimed at the plans of the compromising imperialist-Zionist-reactionary alliance until southern Lebanon, the whole of Palestine and all the other occupied Arab territories are liberated.

Revolutionaries Under Attack

JN181956Y Baghdad Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1830 GMT 18 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Beirut--For the second consecutive day, 'Arafat's gangs are continuing to attack the bases of revolutionaries who are determined to fight, hunting them down. It has been learned that by last night some 100 revolutionaries had been detained by these gangs.

Reports from Beirut say that Khalil al-Wazir--Abu Jihad--and Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid--Abu al-Hawl--both members of the 'Arafat leadership, are supervising this criminal operation. Agents 'Azmi as-Sughayyar and Abu az-Za'im are carrying it out.

Reports confirm that the hunt is continuing and wider clashes are threatened in more than one area.

The attack on the bases and the hunting down of revolutionaries have been condemned by the cadres and fighters of the Palestinian revolution. Several commanders, military cadres and fighters have condemned these operations and refuse to get involved in them. Furthermore, several of the fighting groups of the Palestinian revolution has alerted their men to the savage attacks by 'Arafat in implementation of the Egyptian-Saudi policy and the deal concluded between 'Arafat and the imperialist-Zionist-reactionary alliance.

CONFRONTATION FRONT INFORMATION MINISTERS END MEETING

LD182336Y Algiers Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Dispatch from Al-Awrasi Hotel in Algiers]

[Text] The information ministers of the Arab countries comprising the steadfastness and confrontation front, who met at the Al-Awrasi Hotel over the last 2 days, ended their conference this evening at about 1945 with the adoption of two resolutions and a final statement.

The statement first of all says that the work of this conference fell within the framework of implementation of the action plan adopted for the information field by the second summit of the Arab confrontation front held in Algiers 2-4 February 1978 and in implementation of the decisions taken by the ministers of foreign affairs and defense of the countries of the Arab confrontation front held in Damascus on 19 March 1978.

The conference, the statement adds, examined practical means to insure implementation of the action plan in the information field adopted by the second conference of the Arab confrontation front and reviewed the latest developments affecting the Arab nation.

In light of these developments, which fully confirm the correctness of the assessment made by the Tripoli and Algiers conferences, the conference (?considers) that the State of Israel, by its very nature founded on racism and discrimination and in its character of a [word indistinct] of imperialism, is inevitably bound to implement a policy of aggression, expansion, colonization and genocide against the Palestinian people and to the prejudice of the Arab nation. This policy, the statement adds, is similar to the one implemented by the racist regimes in southern Africa and constitutes a potential and long-lasting danger to the African Continent and international security.

The statement reiterates that the Palestinian question is the core of the Middle East issue since the Palestinian resistance, embodied by the PLO, is the vanguard of the Arab nation's liberation struggle. This resistance must receive the effective and active solidarity of all fraternal and friendly countries.

I repeat: Arab solidarity cannot be fully expressed and cannot be fully implemented other than by constant struggle against the imperialist-Zionist designs, and cannot be justified by any policy of capitulation whatsoever [words indistinct] of President as-Sadat. The latter, the statement adds, by taking an initiative of capitulation, dealt a serious blow to Arab solidarity and moved dangerously away from the liberation struggle of the Arab nation and from the goals defined by the Algiers and Rabat summits. To envisage the conclusion of an agreement with a racist [word indistinct] which is beholden to imperialism and does not conceal that it implements a policy of expansion and occupation is a serious venture, for it is certain that a just and lasting settlement of the Middle East issue--real peace--cannot be achieved in this region until the occupied Arab territories are completely recovered and until the national [word indistinct] rights of the Palestinian people are fully satisfied, in particular their right to return (?home), the right of self-determination and the right to set up an independent state.

The situation prevailing in the Arab world, the final statement adds, in the Mashriq as in the Maghreb, is an integral part of the same imperialist strategy illustrated by military occupation and (?direct) intervention intended to strangle the Arab liberation movements, in both the Western Sahara and in other parts of the Arab world.

The confrontation front is (?open) to all Arab nations aware of their national and popular responsibility and willing to take part in the struggle to become Arab nations.

The information media of the confrontation front must reaffirm the Arabs' right to be powerful, a guarantee of their unity, and reaffirm that they are able to achieve their goals of unity, freedom and progress if they devote their energy (?to these goals).

The conference of information ministers of the Arab confrontation front made a series of decisions to implement the action plan in the information field adopted by the second summit of the front and to implement cooperation and coordination among various information organizations of the front member countries. They are aimed at mobilizing the Arab masses, at making international public opinion sensitive to the just Arab cause and the fundamental goals of the struggle of the Palestinian people, and at denouncing plans to perpetuate the Zionist-imperialist domination in the region, to aggravate the situation in the Arab world and to jeopardize peace and international security.

They are intended to work for achieving an active Arab solidarity based on continuation of the struggle against the American-Zionist plan followed by As-Sadat's regime and to foil the schemes against the fundamental goals of the Arab nation. They are meant to continue the struggle against all obstacles hindering the emancipation, development and rebirth of the Arab nation; to work for a just peace in the Middle East by recovering all occupied Arab territories and by recovering the national rights of the Palestinian people, including their right to return (?home) and to establish an independent state in their fatherland.

The conference also welcomed the firmness and spirit of resistance of the fraternal Palestinian and Lebanese peoples, who stand up to the Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon. The conference stressed the important role played in Egypt by national and progressive forces in the movement of resisting President as-Sadat's policy of capitulation. The conference hailed the struggle of Egyptian journalists and writers who, with their militant action, hinder the tendentious campaigns carried out by the As-Sadat regime against the will of the Egyptian Arab nation.

The conference decided to oppose and firmly resist press campaigns aimed against any member country of the front in order to [words indistinct] endeavor to strengthen the links of friendship and cooperation with the socialist countries, and above all the Soviet Union.

Finally, the conference decided to hold its next meeting in Damascus in the last quarter of the current year.

ALGERIAN ENVOY DELIVERS BOUMEDIENE LETTER TO 'ARAFAT

JN171721Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1600 GMT 17 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Brother Abu 'Ammar, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, received this morning brother 'Abd al-Hamid al-Mahri, envoy of Algerian President Houari Boumediene. The radio correspondent has learned that brother Abu 'Ammar received a letter from the Algerian president regarding the situation in the Arab region, especially the French intervention in the desert.

ARAB BANK FOR DEVELOPMENT IN AFRICA OPENS SESSION

JN191000Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0825 GMT 19 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpts] Riyadh, 19 April--At 1030 Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz opened the fourth session of the Board of Governors of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa. The session is being held at the King Faysal Conference Hall. The opening session was attended by Second Deputy Prime Minister and National Guard chief Amir 'Abdallah ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, high-ranking state officials and those concerned with financial and economic affairs.

The following is the text of the speech delivered by Amir Fahd: Brothers, our world today is facing economic problems. These include a low rate of economic growth and a high rate of inflation, continuous exhaustion of energy and world monetary instability. These problems are disturbing the world, developing and advanced countries alike.

The slow rate of growth and the high rate of inflation require the world to achieve better cooperation in order to increase production and reduce unemployment without triggering inflation. It is agreed that genuine economic stimulation cannot be achieved as long as prices continue to increase. Although the rate of inflation has decreased somewhat in most parts of the world, it is still high. Therefore, it is necessary that the world, particularly the advanced states, note that efforts to achieve higher economic growth rates must be achieved within the framework of monetary policies aimed at decreasing inflation rates.

I would like to note here that high inflation rates in the industrially advanced countries are harder on the developing countries because they adversely affect their commercial situation and decrease their development. This comes about because of the increased prices of goods they import from the developing [as received] countries, particularly goods needed for production. This is in addition to the inflation rates, which are due to internal causes.

As for energy, there is unanimity in the world that the established world reserves of oil and gas are limited. That is why great efforts must be exerted to avoid wasting them. What is causing us anxiety is that the consumption of energy continues to increase throughout the world, while the interests of the countries producing and consuming oil and gas require firm measures to reduce consumption and find alternative sources of energy. We call upon all countries in the world to pay attention to their problem and to give it priority to insure the continued progress and prosperity of all peoples in the world. The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has worked and continues to work sincerely and faithfully to provide an appropriate production of oil and gas out of its feeling of common responsibility in the world community. However, our feeling of responsibility for the coming generations in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia requires us to be careful and to achieve a calculated equilibrium between the present and the future.

As for the world monetary order, the problems of monetary instability which swept the world in the 70's and which have recently intensified create strong cause for anxiety because they are one of the important sources of inflation and adversely affect world trade. They also cause injustice to lenders and borrowers and might create international disputes.

As for the oil producers, this instability harms their interests. The elimination of this instability requires sincere cooperation from the principal industrial countries to remove the imbalance and to encourage a balanced growth in world trade and development.

It is well known to all that the policy of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia stresses maintenance of monetary stability. We are determined to maintain this policy, although it has cost us many sacrifices on many occasions and despite the fact that we are a developing country with increasing needs to achieve development aims at a time in which the cost of imported industrial products is increasing.

Brothers, we fully believe that there is genuine understanding on the part of all world leaders, including those of the developing and industrial countries, concerning the importance of these subjects. They also understand that development is a problem which concerns the international community and that its achievement depends on a genuine cooperation which involves mutual sacrifices as well as mutual interests.

The world is looking forward with interest to the summit conference to be held shortly in Bonn by the principal industrial countries. Although we understand the massive responsibility facing this meeting, we are optimistic that the conferring countries will exert genuine efforts to find radical solutions to the principal problems facing the world. We also expect from them a real understanding of the fact that the problems of economic growth facing the industrial countries have structural links with the economic growth problems facing the developing countries, regardless of their conditions. Thus, it is necessary to take these into consideration when the expected reform plans are drawn up.

Chairman, Vice Chairman Elected

JN191037Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 0945 GMT 19 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Riyadh, 19 April--Finance and National Economy Minister Shaykh Muhammad Aba al-Khayl has been elected chairman of the fourth session of the Board of Governors of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa. Bahraini Finance Minister Ibrahim 'Abd al-Karim was elected vice chairman.

The bank's Board of Governors began its activities today after the opening of its current session by discussing the agenda, which includes a discussion of the banks activities during the part year, plans of future action, and a number of organizational and administrative questions. The board will also discuss a report by Bank Chairman Dr ash-Shabhili al-'Ayyari on these questions.

Finance and economy ministers and central bank governors of the 18 Arab countries participating in the bank are taking part in the activities of the board.

ARAB COMMUNIST, WORKERS PARTIES ISSUE STATEMENT ON S. LEBANON

JN161923Y Voice of Palestine [Clandestine] in Arabic to the Arab World 1600 GMT 16 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Eight Arab communist and workers parties yesterday issued a joint statement regarding the Zionist invasion of southern Lebanon. The statement says that this invasion was achieved with U.S. backing, taking advantage of As-Sadat's capitulationist course. The statement defines the aims of the invasion as occupying part of southern Lebanon; liquidating the Palestinian resistance; striking at the Lebanese Nationalist Movement; weakening all forces of steadfastness and confrontation; helping the isolationist-reactionary forces in their plots against the unity and Arabism of Lebanon; imposing fascist, racist and sectarian control over the people of Lebanon; and achieving the expansionist Zionist ambitions as well as the aims of the Zionist-imperialist scheme in the region.

The parties signing the statement praised the heroic fighting with which the joint forces of the Palestinian revolution and the Lebanese Nationalist Movement faced the Zionist invasion. The statement also calls for conducting a large-scale Arab and international political campaign aimed at achieving an immediate, complete and unconditional withdrawal of the Zionist occupation forces.

In their statement the parties stressed the importance of consolidating cooperation with the Palestinian resistance movement and the Palestinian people in their struggle to attain their legitimate national rights. The parties expressed full support for Lebanese national rights. The parties also expressed full support for the Lebanese Nationalist Movement in its struggle to eliminate the Zionist occupation in southern Lebanon; foil the Zionist-isolationist scheme; preserve the unity, Arabism and independence of Lebanon; and safeguard the Palestinian revolution.

KUWAIT

OMANI-RAS AL-KHAIMA TENSION REPORTEDLY EASING

JN182042Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1930 GMT 18 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 18 April--Rashid ar-Rashid, under secretary in the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry, received here today the ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman in Kuwait who handed him a letter for Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad as-Sabah, foreign minister of Kuwait, from Qays 'Abd al-Min'im az-Zawawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, concerning the situation in the region.

Later, the ambassador said that the letter comes within the framework of the current consultations between the two countries on matters of mutual concern between the Sultanate of Oman and the Ras al-Khaima Emirate. The Omani ambassador affirmed that the border dispute between his country and the Ras al-Khaima Emirate is now proceeding toward a solution as a result of the efforts and contacts made by the officials in the two countries.

SAUDI ARABIA

PAKISTAN'S ZIAUL HAQ COMMENTS ON TALKS

JN181458Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 18 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Jidda, 18 April-Gen Muhammad Ziaul Haq, chief martial law administrator of Pakistan, has stated that his talks with His Majesty King Khalid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz and with the crown prince covered bilateral relations and regional as well as international affairs. He added that the talks were characterized by full understanding and agreement on viewpoints regarding issues of mutual interest.

In a statement to SNA, General Ziaul Haq added: During the visit I sensed the noble fraternal feelings of his majesty the king, the crown prince and the members of the government. He then expressed his thanks and gratitude for the brotherly welcome and generous hospitality accorded him and the delegation accompanying him during their visit to the kingdom.

He concluded his statement by saying: I will return to Pakistan with a renewed faith in the permanent friendship between the kingdom and Pakistan. We will also work to increase cooperation between our two Islamic countries so as to realize our common interests.

OIL MINISTER ON OPEC, DOLLAR SITUATION

LD181928Y Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 15 Apr 78 p 1 LD

[Muhammad Rida Lari report]

[Text] His Excellency Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani, minister of petroleum and mineral affairs, has affirmed that OPEC's forthcoming meeting will be held in At-Ta'if. His excellency explained that Saudi policy on oil prices insists on continuing to freeze these prices until the end of 1978, as was confirmed at OPEC's last meeting in Caracas.

His Excellency Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani continued: As for the U.S. dollar, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia insists on using it as a means of payment. Saudi Arabia and its OPEC colleagues can find no other currency to take its place.

With regard to the OPEC committee which is studying ways to determine oil prices, it has not yet finished its work, and the subject will be discussed at one of OPEC's ministerial meetings in light of the joint interests of its members.

In conclusion Shaykh Ahmad Zaki Yamani said: The kingdom has not decided to reduce production level but rather has set a maximum on it. The factors of supply and demand have reduced production to less than the level set by the government. 'UKAZ has learned that it has been decided to postpone OPEC's extraordinary meeting from May to June.

The organization is currently holding large-scale contacts with member-states in order to agree on the new date, and Saudi Arabia has approved the postponement in principle. Sources inside OPEC said that the organization favors a meeting in At-Ta'if on 17 June. The sources denied that the extraordinary meeting will discuss coordination between the oil exporting countries in light of the joint interests of the member-states. But the sources said that no agenda for the meeting has yet been prepared. OPEC has stressed that, despite the peripheral and secondary differences between the member-states, the member-states adhere more than any time before to a spirit of cooperation based on thorough study of the various subjects that concern the general policy and objectives of the organization. Therefore it is hoped that the resolutions of the next OPEC meeting in At-Ta'if will reflect this deep understanding of interests and of commitment to the general policies pursued by the organization.

DEFENSE MINISTER INSPECTS DHAHRAN AIR BASE

JN151814Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1735 GMT 15 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpts] Dhahran, 15 April--His Royal Highness Prince Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, defense and aviation minister, today inspected projects on the Dhahran Air Base. He was accompanied by Maj Gen 'Ali al-Buri, commander of the eastern region, and high ranking air force officers. The tour included the positions on which the housing units, the technical institute, the electronics center and the sultan stadium will be built. In a speech delivered on the occasion, the prince conveyed his majesty's greetings and the greetings of the crown prince to the officers and men. He said: You bear a great responsibility because you are holding aloft the banner of Islam to all parts of the world and you must be ambitious to serve Islam and this nation. His highness said that those who bear grudges--from communists to Zionists--against you are the enemies of Islam and Arabism. Therefore, you must be well prepared. His highness said that power is not based on arms but on faith. His highness left the base amid slogans, chanting and prayers that God may preserve the leaders of this nation headed by his majesty the king and his royal highness the crown prince.

IRAQI FINANCE MINISTER ARRIVES IN RIYADH

JN171432Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1230 GMT 17 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Riyadh, 17 April--Dr Fawzi ['Abdallah] al-Qaysi, Iraqi finance minister, and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Riyadh at noon today to attend the fourth session of the governors of the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa, scheduled to begin in Riyadh next Wednesday morning. The Iraqi delegation was received at the airport by Muhhammad Aba al-Khayl, minister of finance and national economy, and several Finance Ministry officials.

EXPLOSION REPORTED IN ARAMCO OIL INSTALLATION

JN161702Y Riyadh SNA in Arabic 1624 GMT 16 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Dhahran, 16 April--An explosion and fire occurred in a plant which separates gas from oil some 40 km southwest of Dhahran, but there was no disruption of electrical power or oil flow. The incident will not have any effect on the production of crude oil. The incident, which occurred at an early hour yesterday morning, caused the death of three Saudis and a Pakistani.

Aramco has issued the following statement on the incident:

An explosion and fire occurred early yesterday morning in a plant which separates gas from oil some 40 km southwest of Dhahran. The incident caused the death of three Saudis and a Pakistani. The separator plant, which was virtually destroyed, is one of three supplying gas to utilities and industrial installations in the Ad-Dammam and Al-Khubar area. Other plants were immediately put into operation to insure the supply of gas. Thus there was no disruption of electrical power or oil flow. The incident will not have any effect on Aramco's production of crude oil.

Before the explosion the employees of the plant detected a leak in an overhead pipe. However, the gas caught fire before workers could take the necessary measures to plug the leak. The explosion occurred at 0145. The separator plant is one of 55 operated by Aramco.

UAE

FOREIGN MINISTER OUTLINES POLICY TO COUNCIL

JN181441Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1340 GMT 18 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 18 April--In a statement made today before the Federal National Council, UAE Foreign Minister Ahmad Khalifah as-Suwaydi affirmed that his country's relations with the gulf states are strong and that coordination with them continues in all fields.

Regarding the UAE foreign policy in the Arab and international spheres, As-Suwaydi said that his country's Arab relations are dominated by understanding and that the UAE has been working since its establishment to strengthen Arab solidarity militarily, economically and politically, because this is the only way to restore the usurped Arab rights. On the international level, he said that his country stands on the side of right, peace and the self-determination of all peoples.

Regarding border disputes, the foreign minister said that this is a widespread phenomenon in the Third World and Arab countries. Some of these disputes were created by colonialism in an attempt to keep these countries away from their real problems. He further said that his country's policy in solving these differences in based on understanding and fraternity.

PRESIDENT INTERVIEWED BY INDIAN BLITZ GROUP

JN141634Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1500 GMT 14 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 14 April--UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan has said that "a comprehensive Arab meeting will take place soon to lay the first stone for rebuilding the edifice of Arab unity."

His highness asserted that "the initiative to restore Arab solidarity started after the first day of President as-Sadat's visit to occupied Jerusalem." Speaking about President as-Sadat's visit to occupied Palestine, his highness said: "It is not strange for a man to carry out an initiative to achieve noble pan-Arab objectives based on a specific assessment that makes him believe in the possibility of the success of his initiative, even though he knows that despite this, he might fail." In an interview with Indian journalist Karanjia, chief editor and proprietor of the Indian Blitz Newspaper Group, to be published tomorrow, His Highness Shaykh Zayid said: It is important to achieve this solidarity so as to avert any negative results. We must support the brother [singular as received] and work together to reach our objectives, his highness added.

Dealing with the relations between the UAE and the Sultanate of Oman, His Highness Shaykh Zayid said that the issue between the two countries has been exaggerated by the foreign press. It is actually a minor dispute. We have actually started to solve this dispute and we will, God willing, achieve something soon that will insure the sanctity of brotherhood, mutual respect and common interests.

Speaking about the Israeli aggression, his highness said that unfortunately what helps Israel in this regard is the division in the Arab ranks and the dismemberment of Arab unity. His highness said that Israel's aggression is directed against the entire Arab nation. He emphasized that "the only way to confront the aggressor is by force--force which can be achieved through the solidarity of the brothers." Speaking about his good offices to commute the death sentence that has been passed against former Pakistani Prime Minister Bhutto, his highness said: "Our desire to see the death sentence against Bhutto commuted does not stem from personal friendship, but from our love for and friendship with the people of Pakistan, as well as our concern for their security, stability and integrity."

Speaking about the UAE march during the past 3 years, his highness asserted that "during the past years we have concentrated on turning the UAE into a modern state which can play a role in international forums and provide a noble and free life to its sons." We are also eager to support all the fraternal and friendly Islamic and Third World countries.

His highness denied the existence of differences among the UAE members. He described reports on this as fabricated, exaggerated and baseless. His highness described the difference in viewpoints regarding certain issues as something natural. He said: We consider the divergence of views on certain issues as a positive factor that will help us choose a sound road that will differentiate between right and wrong through experience.

The UAE president announced that measures have been taken to enact the appropriate law to coordinate all the industrial and economic activities throughout the UAE. This law will be applied as soon as it is enacted.

PRESIDENT RECEIVES MESSAGE FROM INDIAN LEADER

JN172022Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1934 GMT 17 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Al-'Ayn, 17 April--His Highness Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan received here this evening Indian Ambassador to the UAE Hamid al-Ansari, who conveyed to his highness the president a message from Indian President Neela Sanjeeva Reddy. During the meeting they discussed relations between the two countries and means to strengthen these relations, as well as issues of common interest.

YEMEN--PDRY

VISITING IRAQI NAVAL FORMATION PRAISED

JN151125Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0746 GMT 15 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Aden, 15 April--Maj Husayn ibn (Mujallid), commander of the PDRY Navy, has expressed his appreciation for Iraqi support to his country. He said that Iraq and the PDRY are adopting the same line in their struggle for the Arab nation's causes. This was contained in a speech Maj ibn (Mujallid) delivered at a ceremony the PDRY Navy held in honor of the Iraqi naval formation at present visiting the PDRY. The Iraqi naval formation has been on a cordial visit to the international port of Aden since last Monday.

Visit Concludes

JN151211Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1046 GMT 15 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Aden, 15 April--An Iraqi naval formation today concluded a 5-day cordial visit to the port of Aden. The naval formation was seen off at the international port of Aden by the PDRY Navy chief of staff, several senior naval officers and the Iraqi ambassador in Aden.

YEMEN--YAR

PREMIER RETURNS HOME, MAKES STATEMENT

JN171451Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 17 Apr 78 JN

[Excerpts] At 1300 today brother 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, Command Council member and prime minister, and the delegation accompanying him returned home from Abu Dhabi at the end of a tour during which he visited the Sultanate of Oman, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain and the UAE.

Following his arrival home, 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani made a statement to SABA' NEWS AGENCY in which he talked about the results of his visit to the states of the Arab Gulf and the peninsula. He said: Our visit to the fraternal gulf states was very successful and achieved all its aims. It also gave us a good chance to consult our brothers on matters related to bilateral and regional relations as well as the pan-Arab and international issues in general and the current Arab situation. We also discussed our ideas regarding the steps which can be taken and what can be done in cooperation with our brothers in the Arabian Peninsula to restore the spirit of Arab solidarity, since it is the only means to achieve Arab power and glory and the sole weapon with which we can protect our legitimate rights in our pan-Arab and fateful battle with the Israeli enemy.

I say again that the visit has achieved its aims and laid the bases for strengthening and promoting cooperation among us in all fields, proceeding from the joint action and the pan-Arab role which we have to play. I was very pleased at the agreement in views regarding all topics discussed with our brothers in the region. This in itself is enough proof of the importance of periodic Arab meetings which serve our nation and our fateful issues. I have felt how much our struggling Yemeni people and their national leadership headed by Lt Col Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi enjoy the appreciation of our brothers in the Arabian Peninsula in particular and the Arab nation in general.

AL-GHANI STATEMENT TO BAHRAINI WEEKLY REPORTED

JN181048Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0850 GMT 18 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 18 April--'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani, YAR Command Council member and prime minister, has stressed that his current tour in the countries of the area which ended yesterday was aimed at holding consultations with the brothers on the current Arab situation in general and on bilateral issues in particular. In a statement to the Bahraini weekly magazine SADA AL-USBU' published today, 'Abd al-Ghani said that the YAR has called for convening an urgent Arab summit conference to restore unity to the Arab stand. Certain Arab countries have agreed to this call. We hope that the other Arab countries will agree to this call quickly.

On the Arab situation following Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat's initiative, the YAR prime minister said that his country is concerned about a unified stand on the major Arab issues. He said that the YAR from the beginning sought to restore unity to the Arab ranks after the disintegration that took place following the initiative. He expressed the hope that a meeting of the Arab kings and presidents would eliminate the differences that emerged in the Arab stand.

Concerning the situation in the Horn of Africa, 'Abd al-Ghani said that the YAR supports anything that will achieve security and stability in the area. He said that the YAR is working constantly so that peace may prevail in the Red Sea area and throughout the Arabian Peninsula. He expressed his regret over the events that are taking place in the Horn of Africa. He expressed the hope that peace and stability will prevail throughout the area.

Concerning the YAR stand toward the Eritrean issue, 'Abd al-Ghani expressed his hope that the Eritrean problem will be solved through peaceful and satisfactory means, that bloodshed will be stopped and that everyone will devote his time to development and progress. He stressed that the security of the Red Sea concerns all its littoral countries. He stressed that the YAR is striving to make the Red Sea a zone of peace and security away from international conflicts. He pointed out that his country is doing its utmost to protect the islands close to the Bab al-Mandeb Strait. He denied reports that Israel occupied some of these islands.

'Abd al-Ghani stressed that the security of the gulf involves the security of all Arabs in view of the importance of this area. He said that peace and stability in the gulf means peace and stability for all the Arab nation. He expressed his country's urgent desire to participate in every conference held to discuss security in the gulf.

In reply to a question on the 5-year plan in the YAR, 'Abd al-Ghani pointed out that this is an ambitious plan to achieve prosperity for the YAR. He stressed that prospecting for oil in the YAR is continuing seriously and expressed the hope that the results will be fruitful. Concerning the current investigations into the murder of al-Hamadi [former YAR Command Council chairman], 'Abd al-Ghani said that these investigations are continuing. He said: The investigating committee has reached some results which we will keep until we uncover all the threads of the case and then we will declare the results to the world.

Concerning the subject of unity between the two parts of Yemen, 'Abd al-Ghani stressed that the committees formed for this purpose are continuing their meetings. Some of these committees have finished their work and others are seeking to lay down the principles for the restoration of unity to the two parts. He stressed that the Constituent People's Assembly in the YAR completes the establishment of constitutional institutions. This assembly does not annul the Popular Congress formed earlier.

FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON ISRAELI STATEMENT

NC181725Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1555 GMT 18 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 April--Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil has emphasized that Israel is continuing its policy of maneuvering and playing with words in an attempt to hide its insistence on adhering to wornout concepts and its inability to respond to the spirit of the initiative which President Anwar as-Sadat has taken and which the whole world has supported because it is based on the principles of right, justice and law.

In a comment today on the statement made by the official Israeli spokesman following the recent meeting of the Israeli cabinet, the foreign minister said that world public opinion cannot be deceived by such a blatant attempt because the declaration of the Israeli Government's acceptance of Security Council Revolution 242 was coupled with a statement by the Israeli official spokesman asserting that Israel continues to refuse to withdraw from the West Bank and the Gaza sector.

The foreign minister added that the Israeli Government is trying--without any legal or logical basis--to keep the West Bank and Gaza sector out of the framework of withdrawal as stipulated in Resolution 242. At the same time it is trying to claim that the above-mentioned resolution governs the situation in Lebanon. In fact the situation in Lebanon is governed by Resolution 425, which the Security Council issued after the Israeli aggression against southern Lebanon and in which it called on Israel to withdraw immediately.

Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil noted that Security Council Resolution 242 is based on two fundamentals: impermissibility of seizing land by force and, subsequently, Israel's withdrawal from the territories it occupied in 1967, and the ending of the state of war and recognition of the states' sovereignty and their right to live in peace and security. He said that Egypt has emphasized beyond any doubt its complete readiness to honor its obligations in accordance with the resolution.

The foreign minister said that President Anwar as-Sadat's initiative represents the peak of Egypt's expression of readiness to honor its commitments within the framework of a comprehensive and just peace. Israel's refusal to implement its obligations and its adherence to its expansionist policy, however, have so far hindered efforts to achieve peace.

Concluding, Ibrahim Kamil said that since Egypt has often asserted that it is leaving the door open to sincere efforts to achieve peace, this makes it incumbent on the Israeli Government to announce its readiness to go along with the efforts to achieve a comprehensive and just settlement based on complete withdrawal from the Arab territories occupied in 1967 and recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate rights, including their right to self-determination.

SAUDI FOREIGN MINISTER SENDS MESSAGE TO KAMIL

NC181530Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 1248 GMT 18 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 April--Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil today received a personal message from Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal.

The foreign minister received the message from Saudi Ambassador in Cairo Abu al-Khayl during a meeting he held with him today.

The Saudi ambassador told MENA that the message concerns the meeting of the Arab foreign ministers in Senegal which is scheduled to start early next week. The message also includes Saudi proposals to be submitted to the conference concerning the Middle East and the Palestinian questions, including the subject of Jerusalem. The Saudi ambassador added that the message also includes subjects concerning Arab solidarity within the framework of the consultations between Egypt and Saudi Arabia on this important subject.

MOROCCAN KING SENDS LETTER TO PRESIDENT AS-SADAT

NC1906547 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2300 GMT 18 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 April--Wednesday's issue of the newspaper AL-AHRAM says that Moroccan King Hassan II has sent an important message to President as-Sadat. The message was brought by Moroccan Ambassador to Egypt Abdellatif Laraki, who returned to Cairo yesterday after an urgent mission in Morocco.

AL-AHRAM NOTES IMPACT OF PEACE INITIATIVE ON ISRAEL, U.S.

LD181012Y Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 14 Apr 78 pp 1, 3 LD

[Chief editor 'Ali Hamdi al-Jammal article: "The Interactions Inside Israel and the United States"]

[Excerpts] The peace initiative is daily proving that it has imposed itself on the question of the Arab-Israeli conflict and that any attempt to avoid it or to destroy it is doomed to failure.

The initiative, like any brave positive action, was a surprise to the parties concerned. The reaction to it represented three trends:

The first trend rejected it without trying to study it, think it over, or even take time to watch its impact and repercussions before expressing an opinion.

The second accepted and welcomed it because it could not afford to reject it even in form.

The third accepted it, welcomed it and gave it support after studying it and understanding its objectives and the results to which it might lead, results which the world had failed to achieve in 30 years.

As for the first party, it is represented in the grouping which calls itself the rejection front. It is a group of countries with partisan or selfish interests connected with domestic policies. Their rejection was expected and their failure to take any positive steps expressing such rejection was certain. This failure was evident in the meetings which the parties to the front held and was confirmed following the Israel attack on Lebanon, when the front stood impotent in the face of aggression. As a result, the front began to disintegrate. The disintegration became evident in Libya's attack on Syria, in the accusations exchanged between Syria and Iraq, and in the Soviet Union's inactive stand whether toward the Israeli attack on southern Lebanon or toward the sorry state of affairs within the front, which derives its rejection from Moscow and acts at the inspiration of the Kremlin.

The second party, which was compelled to accept the initiative contrary to its desire, is Israel. The Israeli Government could not declare frankly and officially that it refused a peace initiative.

Menahem Begin accepted the initiative and invited President as-Sadat to visit Jerusalem as a tactical step in first accepting the call for peace and later seeking to place obstacles in its path. This was what actually happened.

The third party gave the initiative absolute support after studying it thoroughly. This is the United States, the West European countries and the Third World.

Now, after a lapse of 5 months since the initiative, during which many meetings and contacts were held, judging the initiative and what it achieved during such a short time should not be confined to the outcome of such meetings and contacts but should encompass the results achieved in reaction to it and the feeling of its importance and value.

The reaction with which we are concerned here is that which occurred in Israel and the United States. There is no doubt that there is an organic link between what is happening in the two countries in view of the special relations that link them.

The reaction in Israel has been underlined by various manifestations, the most important of which are:

First, it is certain that the Israeli people sincerely welcomed the initiative because of their feeling that that this is the first real opportunity to achieve peace. When the people began to feel that their government under Menahem Begin was behaving as if it wished to stifle this historic opportunity, however, they began to demonstrate against Begin. Such demonstrations are not just a passing emotional reaction to a transient event, but indicate that a new current is building up inside Israel. For the first time in Israel's history officers and men of the Israeli army have taken part in a demonstration against Begin's government. There is no doubt that this is a grave sign of danger for the government and a new manifestation that Israel has never experienced before.

Second, all Israeli political forces opposing Begin have declared their refusal to endorse the obstacles Begin is placing in the path of peace. These forces included even Knesset members of the Democratic Movement for Change, which participates in the present government coalition.

Third, the demand by 'Ezer Weizman, the Israeli defense minister and No 2 man in Begin's party, to form a national coalition government embracing all the parties was not just a maneuver or an attempt to appease public anger following the failure of Carter-Begin talks in Washington last month. It clearly means--despite attempts to show the contrary--that Israel cannot be and is not in a position to face the consequences of any dispute with the United States.

Fourth, the dispatch of Weizman to Cairo--despite the realization by Begin's government that Egypt insists on adhering to the principles of peace it declared--was an attempt by the government to drug the opposition which began to build up inside Israel in the hope that something would happen in the meantime that would help the Israeli Government out of the dilemma in which it finds itself.

Fifth, the Israeli newspapers began to say frankly that Begin himself is the obstacle to peace and that the only solution is to remove him from his post. Trying to defend himself, Begin accused the United States of being behind this so that he would incite national feelings in Israel. But the United States categorically denied interfering in Israeli domestic affairs and thus prevented Begin from playing this game.

What about the reaction in the United States?

Before going into details, a well-known fact that needs no emphasis should be noted here, namely, that the various quarters involved in U.S. decisionmaking think a thousand times first about the Zionist lobby in the United States before making any decision on the Arab-Israeli conflict, since destructive Zionist storms inside the United States have often uprooted U.S. politicians who expressed--even if unwittingly--support for the Arab viewpoint.

When President Carter assumed office, the political map of the area had substantially changed as a result of the glorious October war. But Carter was aware of what happened to his predecessors Richard Nixon and Gerald Ford when Zionist forces felt that the two men--after the October war and as a result of the clever Egyptian policy--had become convinced of the need for the United States to change its views on the Arab-Israeli conflict.

President as-Sadat's visit to the United States and his meetings with President Carter, congressmen and representatives of the Israeli lobby gave the U.S. Government new impetus in its move toward peace.

President Carter felt that the Zionist sotrm had lost some of its strength. This was evident in the attitude of several congressional leaders and in public opinion reflected in the media.

Thus, reaction in the United States began to be reflected in the government's attitude. For example:

First, the United States submitted to the Security Council a draft resolution calling for immediate Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon on the day Begin arrived in Washington. When he arrived, he found himself facing a resolution that had already been issued.

Second, the frank declaration regarding the differences of views between Carter and Begin. The differences prove that U.S. views agree with those of Egypt.

Third, Begin was strongly criticized by some congressmen, and this was reflected in their statements.

Fourth, the United States pointed to the use of cluster bombs by Israel in the attach on southern Lebanon and considered this a violation of the armament agreement between the two countries.

Fifth, the U.S. authorities refused to close down the PLO office in New York.

Sixth, the unprecedented criticism of Begin's policy by most well-known writers and journalists, including Jews, and the mounting support for the peace initiative in every poll taken in the United States.

All these reactions inside the United States have given the U.S. Government the ability to move and to express openly views consistent with justice and peace in the Middle East.

However, I must express here two reservations:

First, that these reactions need some time to really influence U.S. decisionmaking;

Second, this does not mean that the U.S. Government will become completely biased in favor of the Arabs, nor do I imagine that such a change is expected or demanded by the Arabs.

In the light of all these reactions, we can take an objective look at the situation which can be summed up as follows:

First, the peace initiative is gaining new ground daily and new supporters and has become the only practical and sound way of reaching a settlement to the conflict.

Second, if Israel really desires peace, it has to choose between two things: either Begin should change his concepts in accordance with the will of local and world opinion or he should let others achieve this objective.

Third, we must be patient and receptive to discussions and dialog. This is dictated by our insistence on a specific and declared stand known to all, both friends and foes.

There remains one question: What about Arab reaction?

The answer is that, after the Tel Aviv operation and Israel's occupation of southern Lebanon, it has become clear to the Arab public who those working in accordance with their national conscience are and also who those who have become captives of their partisan and personal interests are.

ISRAEL PROVOKING SAUDIS TO JOIN CONFRONTATION STATES

NC161805Y Cairo DPA in Arabic 1640 GMT 16 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 16 April--Today's issue of the weekly magazine OCTOBER says that Israel has been trying to provoke Saudi Arabia into becoming a confrontation state, joining Egypt, Syria, Jordan and Lebanon. The magazine says Israel violated Saudi airspace 20 times during the past few months and has staged several naval maneuvers near Saudi shores.

OCTOBER was commenting on the Israeli protests that the F-15 aircraft which Saudi Arabia will receive as part of a package deal involving Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Israel, if President Carter obtains approval, will be deployed in the Tabuk military base. This base is in eastern Saudi Arabia about 150 km from Israel.

OCTOBER says these planes will not be exported before 1980. This means that a long time will pass before the Tabuk base is a threat to Israel.

The magazine also notes that the French Dassault aircraft manufacturing company has announced that Saudi Arabia will contribute to the production of the advanced French Mirage-2000 and that Egypt will receive a number of these Mirages.

AS-SADAT ARRIVES IN AL-BAHR AL-AHMAR GOVERNORATE

NC181600Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Apr 78 NC

[Text] President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat arrived at Al-Ghurdaqah Airport in the Red Sea area at 1400 today. He was accompanied by Prime Minister Mamduh Salim, head of the presidential bureau Hasan Kamil, Housing and Reconstruction Minister Engineer Hasaballah al-Kafrawi and head of the food security projects Engineer 'Uthman Ahamad 'Uthman. The president and his delegation were received at the airport by Deputy Prime Minister and War Minister Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi, Insurance and Social Affairs Minister Dr Amal 'Uthman and Governor of Al-Bahr al-Ahmar 'Ali Ahmad 'Uthman.

President as-Sadat's visit to Al-Bahr al-Ahmar Governorate will last 2 days, during which he will meet with the popular leaders in the governorate. His excellency will also distribute land title deeds for 1,500 feddan among the Al-'Ababidah and Al-Bashariyah tribes in the governorate. President as-Sadat will also meet with fishermen at the Al-Ghurdaqah port and will inaugurate two modern fishing boats which will join the Red Sea fishing fleet. The president will distribute title deeds for 25 boats among fishermen in the fisherman's cooperative society.

The radio correspondent has learned that during his visit to the Al-Bahr al-Ahmar Governorate President as-Sadat will give the sign to begin expanding the developing Safajah port to become an international port. Safajah Mayor 'Abd ar-Rahman 'Anabah has stated that Safajah port is considered one of the most important ports of the Arab Republic of Egypt in view of its important influence on our national economy. Aluminum ore for the Naj' Hammadi plants are imported through this port. This port also serves oil exploration operations in the Red Sea.

President as-Sadat was accorded a warm popular welcome and tens of thousands of citizens assembled, shouting slogans for the long life of President as-Sadat. Posters and banners were raised to hail the hero of the October war.

ECONOMIC AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH WEST GERMANY

NC182138Y Cairo MENA in Arabic 2100 GMT 18 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Cairo, 18 April--An economic agreement was signed in Cairo this evening between the Arab Republic of Egypt and the Federal Republic of Germany. Under the agreement Germany will provide Egypt with train engines and equipment worth DM60 million. This amount will be deducted from the FRG economic aid to Egypt decided upon during FRG Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's visit to Egypt last December which amounts to DM310 million.

The agreement was signed for Egypt by Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil and for the FRG by FRG Ambassador to Egypt Hans Georg Steltzer.

It has been decided that the joint Egyptian-German committee will meet in Cairo in June to define the projects that are to be implemented in Egypt and financed from the remainder of the aid Germany is to give Egypt.

PRESIDENT HAILS PILOTS ON AIR FORCE ANNIVERSARY

JN171307Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1115 GMT 17 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 17 April--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr has said that the Iraqi pilots have proved on all occasions that they are worthy of trust for their heroism and sacrifices. These pilots, President al-Bakr added, have written pages with blood, lighting the way for every Arab to achieve his nation's objectives of life and dignity. This came in President al-Bakr's congratulations to the air force and air defense men on the occasion of the 47th anniversary of the establishment of the Iraqi Air Force, which will be observed on Saturday.

President al-Bakr added that the armed forces have held a prominent position in the life of our people. Today these forces are more determined than ever to continue their work in preparation for defending the people's interests, represented by their objectives of unity, freedom and socialism and by the great gains the people have scored since the eruption of the blessed 17 July Revolution. After having surmounted past battles successfully, we aspire for the future which we believe will be filled with gains and victories. He added: Despite all our gains, we still face a long period that will need all our efforts and sincerity in order to achieve our aspirations.

He added: Our nation, while standing at a decisive crossroad, pins great hopes on our armed forces. Our nation is determined to support the armed forces during future battles. President al-Bakr added: Rest assured that the sincere Arab masses will stand strongly with us, taking the same line, and will have similar principles and objectives. President al-Bakr asserted that the sons of the armed forces are the sincere brothers of the long line of martyrs who have sacrificed themselves in defense of our nation's dignity. We should preserve the trust and we should struggle in order to keep the banner high. This is our message and this is our objective: The sincere struggle is the fate of this generation. Let this generation and future generations shoulder the responsibility for this fate with worthiness.

President al-Bakr said: We have several battles before us which we must win in order to achieve that honorable objective. We must rise to the level of the historic responsibility as far as discipline, training and work are concerned. We must respond to the call of duty in due course.

In conclusion President al-Bakr said: The Arab honor which our army defended in Sinai and on Golan still needs your efforts and struggle.

FRENCH POLICE OFFICERS ARRIVE ON OFFICIAL VISIT

JN170852Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0735 GMT 17 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 17 April--French Police Director General Brig Gen Robert Pandraud arrived in Baghdad at midnight last night at the head of an official delegation on a visit of several days to Iraq.

While in Iraq, the French delegation will hold talks with officials at the Iraqi general police department on cooperation between the police organs in the two countries. It will also be briefed on work methods in the Iraqi police departments.

The delegation includes the director of the main public security office in France, Andre Dalmas.

INTERIOR MINISTER VISITS AUTONOMOUS AREA IN NORTH

JN161845Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1755 GMT 16 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Irbil, 16 April--'Izzat Ibrahim, Revolution Command Council member and interior minister, has asserted that the political command devotes special attention to the autonomous area in northern Iraq.

This came during the visit Ibrahim made today, as President al-Bakr's representative, to the legislative council of the autonomous area in Irbil. Ibrahim added that this attention is aimed at developing the area and meeting its needs. He stressed the need for strenuous efforts to be exerted in the institutions of the autonomous area because of their important role in the area. Ibrahim expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the employees in these institutions to deepen and entrench the experiment.

Ibrahim visited a number of establishments and agricultural projects in Irbil and was made acquainted with the course of work and production.

AL-BAKR SENDS BIRTHDAY CABLE TO NORTH KOREAN PRESIDENT

JN150802Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0734 GMT 15 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 15 April--President Ahmad Hasan al-Bakr has sent a cable of good wishes to Kim Il-song, president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, on his 66th birthday. The cable says: It gives me great pleasure to send to you, in my name and in the name of the Iraqi people and government, sincere congratulations, wishing Your Excellency continued good health and for the friendly Korean people progress and prosperity.

ECONOMIC DELEGATION LEAVES FOR MEETINGS IN JORDAN

JN140847Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0754 GMT 14 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 14 April--An Iraqi economic delegation led by Mahdi Muhsin 'Awdah, under secretary of the Ministry of Trade, left this morning for Amman to attend the meetings of the joint Iraqi-Jordanian committee scheduled to convene there tomorrow. During its meetings, the committee will discuss the means of developing economic and trade relations between the two countries. The Iraqi delegation is made up of representatives of the ministries of Trade, Foreign Affairs, Finance, Industry and Minerals, and Agriculture and Agrarian Reform.

VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVES CUBAN PRESS DELEGATION

JN191121Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1100 GMT 19 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 19 April--Vice President Taha Muhyi ad-Din Ma'ruf at noon today received the Cuban press delegation currently visiting Iraq. The delegation has been in Iraq for several days now. Vice President Ma'ruf answered the questions of newsmen who represent Cuban radio, television, news agencies and newspapers. The questions dealt with (?several) issues related to the enlightened relations between Iraq and Cuba and their role in the nonalined group, as well as with the development achieved by the two countries in various fields.

PRESIDENT SARKIS ACCEPTS RESIGNATION OF CABINET

NC191208Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 19 Apr 78 NC

[Text] We have just received word that the government has tendered its resignation. President Ilyas Sarkis has accepted the resignation and has asked the government to act as a caretaker cabinet until a new government is formed.

SHAM'UN, SPEAKER AL-AS'AD MAKE STATEMENTS

NC182020Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Apr 78 NC

[Excerpt] The speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, Kamil al-As'ad, made a statement after the deputies' meeting at the chamber building at noon today, in which he said:

The meeting participants included representatives of all factions and groups in the Chamber of Deputies, in addition to the independent deputies. It can be said that the gathering was an embodiment of the will of the entire chamber. I would like to affirm that the discussions dealt with the Lebanese destiny and various basic matters related to this destiny. Lebanon's destiny depends on the attitudes we adopt on these matters. The discussions were characterized by the frankness and objectivity required by the current perilous situation and the national responsibility which the peoples' representatives are assuming at this perilous stage.

Al-As'ad added: It has been unanimously decided to continue the discussions at another meeting, which we have scheduled for Thursday morning.

Replying to a question, Speaker al-As'ad said: We have called for the convocation of a meeting on Thursday. Our only concern is the adoption of a united stand. The meeting will be a continuation of today's meeting and an expression of a united stand.

Asked whether the meeting which took place in his office this morning contributed to the positive atmosphere at the expanded meeting of the deputies, Speaker al-As'ad replied: We had called on all the parliamentary blocs to hold this meeting, and the minimeeting was a starting point for the discussions.

Asked what topics were raised, Speaker al-As'ad said: There were indepth discussions on the fateful issues of the Lebanese problem in general and on the problems which are impeding the efforts to rescue Lebanon from its predicament. In reply to another question, he said: The Lebanese file contains all current issues under discussion which are directly related to the nation's destiny and to the determination of the nation's destiny.

Former President Camille Sham'un also commented on the meeting, saying: It was a calm, positive meeting in every sense of the word. God willing, it will also prove useful. When asked whether anything specific had been achieved, he replied: No, not yet.

Asked whether the talks had crystallized into any specific ideas, he replied: I cannot say they crystallized into any specific ideas, but I can say that the discussions at this meeting were a very practical expression of our viewpoints. However, we have not arrived at any results. We did not expect to arrive at any results today before holding our next meeting.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES POSTPONES SCHEDULED MEETING

NC182021Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 18 Apr 78 NC

[Excerpt] The meeting of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies scheduled for 20 April was postponed today by unanimous decision. It was decided to hold another preparatory meeting next Thursday to continue discussing the fateful matters which were discussed in today's meeting.

BUTRUS COMMENTS ON MEETING WITH CAMILLE SHAM'UN

NC181605Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Apr 78 NC

[Text] His Excellency President Ilyas Sarkis held a meeting this morning with the deputy prime minister and the minister of foreign and expatriates affairs, Fu'ad Butrus. Following this meeting, Minister Butrus was asked about the nature of his meeting today with former President Camille Sham'un. He replied: We discussed current affairs, including the subject of the UN Security Council and the implementation of its resolutions. Naturally, we exchanged views on various peripheral topics related to the business currently being tackled by government.

Asked whether he will meet Shaykh Pierre al-Jumayyil within this context, he replied: Perhaps. It is possible that I will see him within the next 24 hours at a social function and we will discuss this.

INA: SOCIALISTS ASSAIL ANTI-PALESTINIAN DEBATE

JN181403Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1228 GMT 18 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 18 April--The Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party has expressed concern over the attempts aimed at making the UN forces in southern Lebanon deviate from their tasks. In a statement issued today after a meeting to discuss the current situation in southern Lebanon, the party voiced its rejection of the Lebanese Chamber of Deputies debate on what is called the Palestinian file. This debate, the statement says, is aimed at enabling the enemy to realize his aims in the south and at giving it the excuse and the justification to procrastinate on the issue of withdrawal and to consolidate its hold on the southern region.

The statement says that contrary to national public opinion the current composition of the Lebanese Army is unbalanced and this army will not play any effective role. The statement calls on the forces rejecting the Zionist aggression to take a historic stand on the Palestinian file debate and says that the people will not remain silent regarding the initiatives which will eventually lead to the loss of a part of the homeland.

AL-MURABITUN CRITICIZES STEADFASTNESS STATES

JN181526Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1231 GMT 18 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 18 April--The Independent Nasirite Movement-Al-Murabitun has stated that the plotting against southern Lebanon has become more intricate owing to the current Arab and international situation. In a statement issued today at a press conference, the movement said that the armed Israeli intervention in southern Lebanon did not aim merely at occupying territory, but also at creating political results which will be ramifications of the currently unsuccessful general plot of settlement.

The statement says that the Zionist occupation took place under an international umbrella and with Arab blessings for sending UN emergency forces to the region. The statement strongly criticizes the attitude of the steadfastness and confrontation states toward the Zionist occupation of southern Lebanon and says that the verbal expressions of steadfastness and the slogans of confrontation were shown to be hollow when the first inch of Lebanese territory fell under enemy tanks.

The statement says that, despite the aggression, the Lebanese-Palestinian cohesion remained pan-Arab in nature, and this motivated the plotting forces to ignite the Lebanese situation in Beirut and to raise their voices, demanding the opening of the file of the Palestinian existence in Lebanon. The statement says that in addition to the Palestinian file, many files should be opened, particularly the file of Zionist occupation, the file of the Lebanese Army and the file of national demands. This should be done so that the legitimate authorities will see their responsibility toward the rights of the Palestinian revolution. The statement accuses the Lebanese State of being lenient with the rightists in Lebanon and with the Zionist occupation.

The movement said that the Lebanese Nationalist Movement will not remain silent in the face of the fierce attack against the struggle of the masses and against their goals.

AFP: DEMONSTRATORS BLOCK WALDHEIM CONVOY

TA181855Y Paris AFP in English 1845 GMT 18 Apr 78 TA

[Text] Ar-Rashidiyah, south Lebanon, April 18 (AFP)--Several hundred Palestinian refugees and heavily armed guerrillas today blocked the passage of United Nations Secretary-General Kurt Waldheim and his convoy in south Lebanon to ask that the rights of the Palestinian people be respected and to protest the use of fragmentation bombs against refugee camps.

The convoy of Jeeps crowded with members of the French U.N. contingent. Armored vehicles and passenger cars had just passed the first U.N. post at Ras al-'Ayn after travelling from An-Naqura, on the Israeli-Lebanese border, when the Palestinians barred the way. After a few minutes the convoy forced its way through the demonstrators and continued north to Tyre without further incident. Mr Waldheim was on an inspection tour of U.N. forces in south Lebanon.

Containers from fragmentation bombs used by the Israeli Air Force against refugee camps were put in the middle of the road outside the Ar-Rashidiyah camp, several kms (miles) south of Tyre, and refugees crowded around Mr Waldheim's car shouting "look, Waldheim, look. Tell that to the Security Council."

Hundreds of women and children from the refugee camp and dozens of Palestinian guerrillas armed with bazookas or with Kalahnikov rifles sprouting roses from the barrel took part. Some carried signs proclaiming: "The rights of the Palestinian people must be respected" or "the United Nations should know the limits of its mission."

Nearby, in a demonstration of their presence and their strength, the fedayeen had placed Jeep-mounted recoilless cannon, heavy machine-guns and various other weapons along the road.

It was Mr Waldheim's first look at the conditions facing U.N. troops in south Lebanon. In Tyre, where he visited a barracks housing 600 French paratroopers, Mr Waldheim said he had stressed in his talks in Israel the importance of an Israeli withdrawal.

About one kilometer (one-half mile) from the U.N. post at Ras al-'Ayn, the Israeli position was being reinforced. However, hundreds of orange trees were bulldozed to clear the land, barbed wire was installed, trenches were dug and low walls were erected to form a small fort over which the Israeli flag was hoisted. The border is 18 kms (10 miles) south of that position.

BOMB THREAT AT BRITISH EMBASSY REPORTED

JN181342Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1238 GMT 18 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 18 April--The Lebanese police today received a warning that a bomb set to explode had been placed in the British Embassy building in Beirut. Accordingly, the building was cleared of staff and employees, and a special police force searched the building. No bomb was found on the premises.

PALESTINIAN CLASHES REPORTED IN BEIRUT

NC190657Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 19 Apr 78 NC

[Text] An armed clash took place among members of a Fatah group in An-Nabatiyah area at 2030 yesterday. Four Fatah fedayeen and two Iraqi nationals were killed. According to information circulated by Palestinians in Beirut at 2200 yesterday, the two Iraqis were among elements sent to spread confusion among the fedayeen. Fatah leader Abu Dawud said that a group belonging to Abu Jihad attacked his forces and arrested some of them.

In Beirut itself, armed Al-Murabitun are occupying the offices of Abella Company in the International Building in Hamra Street. They demand 500,000 Lebanese pounds in return for vacating the offices and permitting the officials to return to their work. The Al-Murabitun attacked the building, dismissed the officials and threw Ramzi Abu Zayd from the first floor to the ground. They also beat up Lawyer Riyad Haddad. The security authorities have taken no action so far.

VOICE OF LEBANON REPORTS ON BEIRUT DEATHS

NC181758Y Voice of Lebanon [Clandestine] in Arabic to Lebanon 1515 GMT 18 Apr 78 NC

[Text] Security disruptions are increasing with the approach of 20 April, which is the date on which the Chamber of Deputies will be convened to discuss the fateful Lebanese affairs. These incidents have alerted the Lebanese security organs to plans by leftist Palestinians--based on personal goals and reasons--aimed at hindering all efforts for stability and security in the country.

The series of events of this nature led to the death today of two gendarmes on the road adjacent to the area of At-Tibbiyyah and the Damascus road. The gendarmes were on patrol and inspection duties. While patrolmen Yusuf Mir'i and Georges al-Khuri Jilu were checking car licenses and the documents of people passing by, two armed men belonging to a Palestinian organization passed by. The two gendarmes asked them to present their identity cards. Their cards indicated that they were fedayeen. When the gendarmes then asked for other personal documents, the gunmen opened fire on them and fled. A security man, who is also employed as a mailman, spotted the two bodies of the gendarmes from his motorcycle.

He also saw the gunmen fleeing with the rifle of one of the gendarmes. When he opened fire on them, they threw the rifle to the ground and immediately disappeared.

It was discovered that one of the murderers belongs to the Ash-Sha'ar family. Investigations are continuing to discover the identity of the second murderer.

Interior Minister Comments

NC181759Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 18 Apr 78 NC

[Text] In the process of carrying out its duties, an Internal Security Force patrol was fired on this morning, resulting in the deaths of two of its members.

Interior Minister Dr Salah Salman has made the following statement on the attack:

The cowardly attack which led to the deaths in the line of duty of two members of the Internal Security Forces is a stab in the heart of the Internal Security Forces, which are braving these hard circumstances in order to carry out their duties in the service of the citizens.

Minister Salman added: We have obtained the names of the two criminals, and I have issued firm instructions to employ all possible means to bring about their arrest. I hope that those two will not be given any assistance by anyone or any party so as to make it easier for the authorities to arrest them.

CANADIAN TROOPS TO JOIN UNIFIL IN SOUTH

NC181808Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 18 Apr 78 NC

[Text] The Canadian ambassador in Lebanon has informed the Ministry of Foreign and Expatriates Affairs of his country's decision to send 80 members of its forces to join UNIFIL in southern Lebanon.

Earlier, the secretary general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Shaykh Najib ad-Dahdah had received George Lane, the deputy chief of mission of the U.S. Embassy in Bierut. They discussed the agenda of the UN General Assembly session scheduled to be held on 20 April and the topics which might be discussed during this session.

MORE FRENCH TROOPS ARRIVE TO JOIN UNIFIL

NC190649Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 19 Apr 78 NC

[Text] An Air France plane arrived at Beirut International Airport at 0645 today, bringing 380 French soldiers belonging to the French force which is part of the UN peace-keeping force in the south.

The new force was welcomed by UN representatives, Lebanese officers and officers of the French battalion.

AL-AHMAR RECEIVES HUNGARIAN YOUTH DELEGATION

JN181546Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1300 GMT 18 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 18 April--Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, today at noon received Dr Sandor Nagy, Central Committee member and secretary of the Hungarian Communist Youth League [KISZ]. The meeting was attended by Comrade Faysal Summaq, chairman of the Syrian Revolution Youth Federation.

Comrade al-Ahmar welcomed the delegation and held a cordial talk with the head of the delegation on the relations of friendship and cooperation between the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party and the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party, on the one hand, and between the Syrian Revolution Youth Federation and the KISZ, on the other. The two sides stressed the importance of cooperation between the two youth organizations in the interests of the countries' joint struggle.

During the meeting, talks were also held on the current situation in the Arab region, especially after the treacherous Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon and the continued Israeli expansionist and aggressive policy aimed at occupying Arab territories and annihilating the Palestinian Arab people.

The head of the Hungarian youth delegation affirmed that the road to a just and lasting peace in the Middle East cannot be achieved except through the liberation of all the occupied Arab territories and the restoration of the national rights of the Palestinian Arab people, including their right to self-determination. The head and members of the Hungarian delegation also expressed their delight over their visit to Syria and expressed their admiration of the great accomplishments achieved in all fields by the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party under the leadership of Comrade Hafiz al-Asad, secretary general of the party and president of the republic.

AL-AHMAR RECEIVES LEBANESE PATRIOTIC FRONT DELEGATION

JN161407Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1335 GMT 16 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 16 April--Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, assistant secretary general of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party, today at 1200 received the delegation of the Lebanese Patriotic Front led by Kamal Shatila, secretary general of the front. The delegation is made up of 'Abdallah ash-Shihabi, 'Isam Mahayri, Wadi' al-Hilu and Hasan Matar.

During the meeting talks were held on the current developments in the Arab region, the situation in Lebanon and the role of the Patriotic Front as well as that of the various other Lebanese nationalist forces in confronting the Israeli occupation and standing fast in the pace of the imperialist and Zionist plans aimed against Lebanon, Syria and the Palestinian issue.

CUBAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER LEAVES DAMASCUS

JN171339Y Damascus SANA in Arabic 1255 GMT 17 Apr 78 JN

[Text] Damascus, 17 April--Rene Anillo, Cuban deputy foreign minister, left Damascus this morning for home following a 2-day visit to Syria, during which he held talks with Syrian officials on the meeting of the Coordination Bureau of the nonalined countries which will be held in Kabul next month.

LIBYA

GUINEAN PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE ARRIVES

LD181644Y Tripoli JANA in English 1415 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, April 18, JANA--Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the great Al-Fatah revolution, received President Ahmad Sekou Toure, the supreme leader of the revolution, the general secretary of the Guinean Democratic Party and the president of the Republic of Guinea, who arrived in Tripoli last night on an official few-days visit to the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah.

Present to meet the Guinean [word indistinct] were Staff-Major 'Abd as-Salam and Major al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, members of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress. Also participating in the reception were the chairman and members of the General People's Committee, the under secretaries, the diplomatic corps in the Jamahiriyah, the leaders of the people's congresses and committees, a number of the armed forces and police officers and a large gathering of the Libyan Arab people.

The president of the Republic of Guinea was accompanied by a large official delegation including the prime minister, the ministers of social affairs, justice, information and planning, the president of the National Assembly, the director of banks, the director of Guinean Air Lines and a number of state officials.

President Sekou Toure was reported by a JANA correspondent to have expressed his deep satisfaction for his being in the Jamahiriyah.

In this respect he said: "I thank God Almighty who has enabled me to visit the Jamahiriyah and to meet with its revolutionary leader Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi."

He added "my cherished dream has now come true. I have been longing for visiting this noble country ever since the advent of the great Al-Fatah revolution. Now my dream has come true. I am now on the Libyan land where I can get in touch with the courageous people of the Jamahiriyah and the leader of its revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi."

He expressed his deep appreciation to the heroes who broke this revolution. At the head of those heroes comes Colonel al-Qadhdhafi, who is not only a leader of the Jamahiriyah but he is also a leader of the Islamic world and all the African Continent.

In conclusion he said: "I do not consider myself a guest in this country. Rather, I look upon myself as a citizen and a struggler who belongs to the people of the Jamahiriyah.

I wish to convey my deep appreciation for every Libyan citizen in this country."

Addresses Banquet

LD181734Y Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Excerpts] Brother Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the 1 September Revolution, addressed the banquet which was given last night in honor of visiting Guinean President Sekou Toure.

He affirmed that the meeting with President Sekou Toure has come about at an appropriate time because now in particular a new colonialist attempt to return to Africa is looking on the horizon.

The great African revolutionary President Sekou Toure made a speech in which he affirmed that the struggle which is being waged by the Libyan people is the same struggle waged by the Guinean people, and that the aims for which the Libyan Arab people are fighting are the same aims which the Guinean people are fighting to realize and defend.

He said that thanks to the Great 1 September Revolution, this country has been transformed and now has factories, high rise buildings, hospitals and schools everywhere. Sekou Toure saluted the brother colonel and said: You have liberated the people and encouraged them to do the work that realizes their interests. You declare the people's rights and you defend them. You also create all the means that enable the people to establish their rights, and you look upon the people as the possessor of sovereignty, and you always say that people's power must prevail without hindrance. You always say that no man and no society has the right to monopolize the people's rights. This is guaranteed in the Green Book, and this is the way of the Koran which you are following.

President Sekou Toure expressed his appreciation for the stands of the Great 1 September Revolution in the struggle against imperialism and colonialism in their new and old forms. He said: Your attitudes toward international issues are quite clear and outspoken and they always stand alongside right and progress. Therefore your revolution enjoys a very good international reputation because in fact you are defending the values which the nations are striving to achieve.

The Guinean president lauded the gigantic efforts the brother colonel has made to find satisfactory and just solutions to burning issues in various regions of the world. He said: We have come to congratulate you on your positive and effective contribution toward realizing peace and fraternity. He said: Also we do not have the slightest doubt that if all African states followed the path pursued by the 1 September Revolution, this would be a real march along the road of economic development for all the African peoples.

If America and Europe are ahead of Africa, they are not humanly or numerically superior to Africa. Scientific and ideological superiority is held by the one that creates the current discrimination between states and nations. Africa should fight to gather knowledge and the president affirmed that knowledge is what gave imperialism the chance to occupy Africa. Africa can never be free from the grip of this imperialism except through science. He said that knowledge is what enables Africa to cooperate with these states on an equal footing in everything. But this requires that every country should be free and responsible for its own destiny and that the people's will should stand above everything else. This is what liberates the creative initiatives of the nations and this is what enhances the strengthening and capacity of production and work. Thus man's exploitation of his fellow man would end, and prosperity would spread to all peoples and all individuals, and from this the significance of our joint struggle becomes clear. We are not against any color or against any nation, but we have been and we always will be against imperialism and against new and old colonialism.

AL-QADHDHAFI ADDRESSES BANQUET FOR SEKOU TOURE

LD181752Y Tripoli JANA in English 1428 GMT 18 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, April 18, JANA--Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the great Al-Fatah revolution, delivered a speech at the dinner banquet, which was held last night in honour of President Ahmad Sekou Toure. Following is the full text:

"It gives me great pleasure to welcome here, now, an honourable guest, a dear brother and a great leader, President Ahmad Sekou Toure of Guinea, supreme guardian of the revolution and secretary general of the Democratic Party of Guinea.

President Ahmed Sekou Toure is so well known to the world that no introduction is needed. If I mention some of his qualities at this hour I do so only to glorify these qualities of his and to greet his great deeds by which he became known to you. President Sekou Toure is the stubborn enemy of colonialist Africa. He is the brave struggler for the cause of liberty and the hero who stands fast in defiance of the dirty attempts of colonialism which continually tries to overthrow his revolutionary regime. He is the honest leader in Africa whose honesty reflects the African originality and supreme values ignored by the dirty colonialists.

His honesty, which is cherised by African originality, has been one of the obstacles to colonialism's attempts geared at hurting him. Colonialism has failed to hurt him from this angle, so colonialism proceeded, in brutal open attempts, to overthrow him, but again to no avail.

This meeting with President Ahmed Sekou Toure comes at a time when we must meet. It comes to culminate a series of meetings which has taken place on the soil of the Jamahiriyah between leaders of revolutionary regimes in Africa and us. Undoubtedly, the Libyan Arab people today takes the greatest pride in the presence of President Ahmed Sekou Toure in their land. We want to mention that the developed relations between the two countries in the field of bilateral cooperation have been making great progress years before this meeting. Fruitful cooperation between the two countries has become an example for others.

There is a number of joint companies which went into operation since 1977 A.D. And a number of agreements which sustain African unity were concluded between the two countries and came into effect since 1974. There is also the joint Guinean-Libyan Arab agrarian corporation whose production is already on the Guinea market.

There are, furthermore, the joint maritime fishing company, the maritime transportation company, the multinational mixed iron company in which the Jamahiriyah, with nine other countries, participates. There is the mixed aluminium company in which the Jamahiriyah, together with seven other countries, participates. Also there is a cultural agreement and an economic agreement. Additionally, there is the financial agreement between the Central Bank of Libya and the Bank of Guinea.

These agreements, together with the joint companies I have mentioned, indicate that the call by the Jamahiriyah for establishing a participation system has met welcome by Guinea, which appreciates the true independence of Africa, only to be realized through participation of African countries to get rid of foreign monopolies.

I repeat that the meetings with President Ahmad Sekou Toure has come at the right time because, on the horizon, there appears a new colonialist attempt to return to Africa. There are even new practical steps for colonization taken by certain African states against Africa.

The imperialist countries have resorted to this direct action after failure of the indirect action, through the use of mercenaries who were used by the imperialist countries to overthrow the revolutionary governments in Africa and to bring back colonialism to Africa.

There are now regular armed forces which have started to enter Africa and which were sent by the imperialist countries.... Air activity has started appearing in the African skies. This comes in addition to tightening the grip of the imperialist monopolies to loot the rest of the African wealth. There are attempts to link Africa, once more, to imperialist treaties. There are attempts to enforce imperialist tutelage by the foreign countries on the African causes which are spread here and there in Africa.

Some puppet African regimes are being used as a cat's-paw by imperialism in Africa. There are parts of Africa, that are situated in the Indian Ocean near the East coast of Africa, that are still subjected to colonization...and when demands were made to remove the colonizers from them they were regarded as parts of European countries.

All these directions indicate a belittlement and resentment of Africa but Africa refuses belittlement of her existence and rejects to be resented by any party.

The racist regimes which differentiate between a white man and a black man and want to colonize this last one are the ones that deserve to be looked down at. All these new attempts will be resisted and imperialism will be defeated and Africa will remain for the Africans. We declare here that Africa has no pact but with itself....and that imperialists must take their dirty hands off Africa.

The recolonization of Africa and the looting of its wealth will be paid for dearly this time. Africa of the 70's is not the Africa of the 50's or the 60's...and what indicates that Africa has changed is that Africa has acquired the ability to shoulder its responsibilities...and has acquired the will to face its problems...we are now on the verge of ending a civil war, which has lasted many years, amongst the Chad people. This reconciliation was achieved by the African will and will not be foiled by imperialist interference or the interference of the stooges of imperialism.

This problem is being solved now through the mediation of CAE, Sudan, Chad and the Jamahiriyah, which are the neighbours of Chad..the Jamahiriyah will press on in order to achieve this final reconciliation in Chad and will resist, along with Niger, Sudan and Chad, any attempt of interference in this problem by imperialism or its stooges.

The Jamahiriyah also made efforts concerning the problem in the Horn of Africa...and the Somali president was persuaded to withdraw his forces from the Ogaden after his return from his recent visit to the Jamahiriyah...this decision was made because of African consultations and by an African will, without any external pressure...and we have to salute President Barre for taking this brave decision and which came in response to African will....

African efforts must continue to end this problem in the Horn of Africa. But this problem will become more complex if the imperialist countries interfered and claimed guardianship on this African problem...the Jamahiriyah has managed to realize reconciliation and end the civil war in the Sudan between the Sudanese National Front and the Sudanese Government. We are heppy at the acceptance of the Sudanese Government and the national front of the efforts of the Jamahiriyah....

There is no doubt that the agents of imperialism are trying to obstruct this final reconciliation, for their own interests and for the interests of their imperialist masters. But the Sudanese people will defeat such attempts...and the people of Chad will also defeat similar attempts.

The Jamahiriyah is in alliance with Chad and with Sudan against the imperialist attempts and the attempts of the stooges of imperialism in these two countries...because imperialism and its stooges want to benefit from the internal differences in these countries for their own benefit.

We are faced with the problem in the Western Sahara, which was called by the general secretary of the U.N. as one of the hot regions of the world, and an African summit meeting should be held soon to deal with this problem. The passage of time is not in the interest of solving this problem, for on the one side it increases the attrition of the parties involved in this conflict, and on the other hand it will create an excuse for imperialism to interfere in Africa.

We should not forget also that at this stage there is an attempt on the part of colonialist agents in Africa to negotiate and enter into alliance with the racialist colonialist regimes in Palestine, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Namibia.

However, the people of Palestine, South Africa, Zimbabwe, Namibia, backed by the peoples of Africa and the peace loving peoples, will inflict defeat on the racialist regimes and will prove to those who want to confirm those racialist regimes that they are working against history.

This meeting of ours in the Jamahiriyah with President Ahmad Sekou Toure, the stubborn struggler against imperialism, will have a positive effect on these issues. The colonialists and their stooges have to know very well that we shall face them and shall defeat them in the showdown because we are fighting on our land, for our continent and for our rights and because we are right. Colonialists have greed on their side and they have nothing to sustain their stances. Again I greet President Ahmed Sekou Toure and express my happiness at meeting him today on the soil of the Jamahiriyah. I greet the distinguished delegation who accompany him including the prime minister, chairman of the National Assembly, a number of ministers, proclaiming that...Africa is for Africans...and Africa has no pact with itself...and hands off Africa.

RALLY ISSUES STATEMENT SUPPORTING AL-QADHDHAFI

LD131352Y Tripoli JANA in English 0838 GMT 13 Apr 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, April 13, JANA--Yesterday morning the city of Tripoli witnessed a mass rally made up of hundreds of thousands of Arab Libyan citizens together with some of the Arab residents in the Jamahiriyah. The rally marched through the streets to the people's palace shouting "long live the leader of the Great September Revolution, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi."

The marchers erected banners carrying slogans such as "Partners But Not Agents," "No Capitalism," "Colonel, the Second Chapter Is a Good Solution," (referring to the second chapter of the Green Book).

The marchers affirmed their constructive contribution to the process of building the Jamahiriyah and defending the great revolution's achievements. The marching masses also denounced the reactionary agents in the Arab world, and praised Colonel Al-Qadhdhafi's courageous and heroic stand towards the Arab cause and the liberation issues in the world, reiterating their adherence to the great revolution and pledging to be the protective armour of that beloved part of the Arab nation.

The masses taking part in the march issued the following statement:

"The revolutionary powers in Tripoli and the surrounding areas are now massing together in a huge march to the Secretariat of the General People's Congress on the occasion of the celebrations for the evacuation, in honour of the historical [word indistinct] speech and the glorious uprising of the 7th of April which has transformed the greatest scientific institution in our country into a revolutionary society.

"The spirit of the Al-Fatah revolution emanates from this revolutionary society after the uprising put an end to the reactionary right and crushed all the bats conniving in the dark, for whom freedom has no meaning and who do not wish to be free.

"In this march the revolutionary powers declare that they are committed to the sovereignty of the people and the concept that sovereignty, wealth and arms are in the hands of the people. This concept cannot be achieved unless the second part of the Green Book is implemented. All classes of the people who benefit genuinely under the Al-Fatah September Revolution have in their basic people's congresses endorsed the two draft laws on real estate and national service. The people reaffirm today with all their resolution that socialism is the course to follow and that socialism will save them from all kinds of economic exploitation.

"The people adhere to the second part of the Green Book and are strongly determined to put it into practice since they realize that it offers the right and the final solution to the economic problems faced by nations both in the Western and Eastern countries of the world. They also find in the second part of the Green Book happiness, security and welfare for all the deprived and oppressed strata of society. In this great gathering we affirm our adherence to the Al-Fatah September Revolution, and its leaders who devised it and who created its concept, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the guardian of Arab nationalism.

"We give our solemn oath to God that this great blessing is part of us and is our life. Hence our duty is to defend it with our blood and counter any attempt against it whether at home or abroad.

"Let those who are sick at heart and who hide behind religion know that freedom, socialism, equality and social justice are promoted by the true Islamic faith which stresses these concepts in many of the verses of the holy Koran and prohibits exploitation, bondage and oppression.

"Those superficial people who have gone astray, have nothing to do with religion, which washes its hands of them. God is referring to them when he says in the holy Koran in the name of Allah, the merciful: 'Maybe they allege there are partners to Allah who have legislated a religion different from that allowed by him.

Had it not been for the final world of judgment, he would have passed judgment on them and unbelievers will receive painful torture.' The holy words of Allah are true.

"Finally the revolutionary power gathered together in this place declares that it will mercilessly and harshly crush all evil powers attempting to hinder the revolutionary march. The revolution is strong with our masses who are committed to, believe in, and are represented by their people's congresses, committees, unions, guilds and professional syndicates.

"The masses are standing on firm ground, the ground of the land of justice, which is the best ground. Let the defiled, the reactionaries and the sick in spirit know that every night is the night on which the Al-Fatah September Revolution took place and every day is that of the uprising of the 7th of April."

Then the rally walked to the headquarters of the General People's Committee where the masses cheered, calling out for the implementation of the second part of the Green Book and hailing the Al-Fatah September Revolution and its leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi.

The march staged in Tripoli yesterday was joined by others from nearby areas.

TUNISIA

NOUIRA NOTES PARTY'S ROLE IN RECENT EVENTS

LD180651Y Tunis L'ACTION in French 12 Apr 78 p 7 LD

[Unattributed report o speech by Prime Minister Hedi Nouira at Conference of Secretaries General of Destourian Socialist Party Coordination Committees on 11 April: "The Year 1979 Will Be Decisive in the Political Sphere"]

[Excerpt] "The party remains upright," Hedi Nouira continued, "and its influence is continually spreading. The recent events have made this clear, just as they have shown that the Tunisian people are sound and responsible as far as ideas, behavior and reactions are concerned. Citizens follow the developments of the situation closely without being carried away by emotions. For if this were not the case, their reaction to the recent events would have been completely different. The people have offered resistance despite provocations and disinformation. These events have also made it clear that militants were cognizant of the existing problems even though they were occasionally inclined to wonder about what was interpreted as reticence or lack of reaction on the part of the political authorities. They have never despaired. What is certain is that the alternatives which we faced at that time were either use of violence to counter violence or recourse to political measures. As we know, violence breeds violence. Only political solutions can endure. Our efforts should mainly be directed toward a search for ways most appropriate for building a better society."

Later, the prime minister referred to the party's open-door policy, which has in no way suffered from the recent events. These events were planned long in advance by individuals with ulterior motives who believed that the party and the government would not be aware of the plot being hatched. They certainly did not expect that we would adopt the measures made necessary by the situation.

ITALIAN MILITARY DELEGATION MEETS WITH NOUIRA

LD180627Y Tunis L'ACTION in French 11 Apr 78 pp 1, 4 LD

[Text] At 1700 yesterday afternoon at the government palace in the Kasbah, Prime Minister Hedi Nouira received the Italian military delegation led by Adm Lingi Cacioppo, head of the institute of advanced military studies in Rome, accompanied by Italy's Ambassador to Tunis Elio Guiffrida.

In a brief speech Mr Hedi Nouira welcomed the Italian military delegation, composed of high-ranking officers from the three Italian armed services and top officials from different Italian military departments. He then stressed the exemplary nature and naturalness of Tunisian-Italian relations.

Mr Hedi Nouira also spoke of Tunisia's economic and social policy--the contract development policy whose benefits, he said, must be shared as fairly as possible among all sectors which take part in creating growth. Thus the social partners have arranged an annual meeting to study wage trends not only in relation to price rises but also increases in production and productivity.

Talking later about the type of society toward which Tunisia is aiming, Mr Nouira explained that Tunisia has opted for a middle-class society, the choice being dictated in particular by the country's modest size and its limited wealth.

The prime minister then replied to questions relating notably to Tunisian economic policy.

Received by Fitouri

LD170829Y Tunis L'ACTION in French 11 Apr 78 p 4 LD

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister Mohamed Fitouri received the Italian military delegation at his department offices yesterday. After pointing out the numerous historical links between the civilizations of the north and south Mediterranean coasts, the foreign minister discussed Tunisian foreign policy which, he said, draws its principles and various options from Bourguibian diplomacy which is characterized by modernization and dialog. Mr Fitouri added that this policy is based on fundamental options such as safeguarding national independence, nonalinement and Tunisia's place in the Mediterranean, Africa and the Arab world and its support for liberation movements.

The foreign minister then answered questions mainly relating to Tunisia's nonalinement policy and Tunisia's position on the Horn of Africa conflict and the Middle East problem. As regards the Middle East question, Mr Fitouri outlined the conflict with special reference to the views expressed by President Bourguiba during his 1965 Jericho visit.

Mr Fitouri indicated that the conflict cannot possibly be solved unless a Palestinian state is recognized and occupied Arab territories are restored. He added that this would make the Mediterranean into a lake of peace which all Mediterranean coastal countries want so much. Mr Fitouri said how pleased he is with Tunisian-Italian relations and he described them as excellent, mentioning especially the gas pipeline agreement which will physically link not only Tunisia to Italy but also Africa to Europe.

Mr Fitouri ended by saying he is convinced that these relations will be increased still further with closer consultations on questions of common interest, such as trade in agricultural products.

DAYAN EXPLAINS GUIDELINES ON APPLICATION OF 242

TA181437Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 18 Apr 78 pp 1, 2 TA

[By 'Uzzi Benziman]

[Text] It emerges from remarks made by Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan at the weekly conference with his ministry's heads of departments yesterday that one of the principal aims of his recently adopted initiative--a formulation of information guidelines regarding the application of Security Council Resolution 242--was to facilitate a coordination of political positions between Israel and the United States.

Dayan reviewed before his ministry's employees the new guidelines and explained their significiance. He stressed that Israel must impede the tendency of President as-Sadat to drive a wedge between Israel and the Washington administration, and to that end Israel must wipe out the misunderstandings between it and the U.S. administration. Dayan even said that in order to reach an accord with the United States it is sometimes necessary to compromise.

Under the present circumstances, the foreign minister said, the United States and Egypt are acting as a single front vis-a-vis Israel. He recalled that in discussions with As-Sadat, Israel submitted two proposals regarding Security Council Resolution 242. One proposal was to quote the full text of the Security Council resolution in the Egyptian-Israeli declaration of principles. The second suggestion was to have the resolution mentioned in the declaration of principles without quoting it in detail.

In this way Israel wished to reflect the relevancy of the Security Council resolution to the negotiations between Israel and Egypt, as far as the future of Judaea, Samaria and Gaza is concerned. However, those proposals have been rejected by Cairo.

The foreign minister pointed out that the new information guidelines put more emphasis on the willingness of the government to accept Security Council Resolution 242 as a basis for possible discussions with Jordan. He recalled that Resolution 242 mentions a "withdrawal of the armed forces" of Israel (from territories). That phrase does not imply the discontinuation of Israeli presence altogether but calls for a withdrawal of the armed forces. Dayan holds that the formula could be used to argue that as far as the West Bank is concerned, the Israeli withdrawal would be expressed in the abolishment of military administration, the removal of armed forces from daily West Bank life (although, according to the concept of the government, which has U.S. approval, the IDF would remain at strategic points in the West Bank), in granting inhabitants of the region the right to opt for the citizenship of their choice, and in entrusting the administration of the affairs of Arab settlements to the local inhabitants.

The foreign minister added that the new formula of the Israeli stance is meant to show that it is not Jerusalem which causes difficulties in the negotiations. The purpose of the information guidelines is to convince As-Sadat and Washington that Israel wants the negotiations to continue and that it misses no opportunity to advance them. Dayan contended that the government interpretation of the applicability of 242 regarding the forms of withdrawal from the West Bank conforms to the spirit of the resolution and that this could also be learned in the contacts recently held between Israeli representatives and the personalities who were active in the formulation and adoption of Resolution 242.

GUR, EYTAN MEET WITH MILITARY CORRESPONDENTS

TA182140Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Apr 78 TA

[Text] This afternoon the Editors' Committee had a party in Tel Aviv to mark the change of personnel in the general staff, with the participation of Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman, retiring Chief of Staff Lt Gen Mordekhay Gur, and the incoming chief of staff, Refa'el Eytan. Here is our military correspondent 'Amiram Nir:

[Begin videotape] The Editors' Committee is the most prestigious body of the media in Israel. Chiefs of staff and defense ministers frequently meet with members of that body in order to strengthen the understanding between the IDF and the press. The chiefs of staff naturally are concerned with the special subject for this forum: what the press may and may not publish on military matters. Two lieutenant generals--two approaches. Mordekhay Gur believes that a balanced public debate on security problems can only help.

[Gur] The proper combination may be found to get the results which, as far as can be judged, are for the benefit of the public. Several times I have expressed my opinion that on the main security issues there is room for public debate, they are not confidential, and in today's open world there are in general only a few details that are secret. As for strategic and political ideas the more they are discussed the better.

[Nir] Refa'el Eytan believes there is only one criterion to be considered in whether to report on a subject.

[Eytan] I am convinced--I know that each of you is certain he knows better than the other, in other words, better than his neighbor, or his counterpart, his media rival what is best for the country, and each in his own way is probably right. I am not asking, and I never will ask, that each of you serve the country's cause in what you do--you are correspondents for the communications systems through which, together with, and by the means of which you are operating. This is difficult, because everyone thinks that he knows best and that what he is doing is for the good of the country, although someone else may think that this is disaster. I have some simple advice--it is really very simple and uncomplicated. When you want to say something that you think is for the welfare of the country--leave the welfare of the country aside, pretend for one moment that you are an Arab, and ask: "Would I as an Arab be happy with this or not?" This is the criterion, and it is an absolute, not comparative, criterion. If I, as an Arab would have been happy, I will not publish it, even though I am the first to discover it and perhaps would gain fame from publishing it.

[Nir] This is the philosophy of the IDF's 11th chief of staff upon entering office. [end videotape]

GUR DISCUSSES MILITARY SITUATION, AGREEMENTS WITH U.S.

TA181624Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 18 Apr 78 TA

[From the Afternoon Newsreel]

[Text] The State of Israel and the IDF are strong enough to reject the U.S. package deal if it is decided that the rejection of the entire deal is vital from the political point of view. This was stated today by the former Chief of Staff Lt Gen Mordekhay Gur. According to Gur, Israel can expect the United States to fulfil its commitments without any connection with the supply of arms to the Arabs. [begin recording]

[Gur] The State of Israel has fulfilled all the agreements [with the United States] and we will withdraw from certain territories which are strategically very important to us. It is our right to expect that the United States will fulfill its part of the agreements directly with us and without any conditions or any connection with Arab countries. This is the first subject that pertains to the relations between us and the United States. As for the second subject, I can say that the State of Israel and the IDF are strong enough to reject such a package deal, if the conclusion is reached that a rejection is politically vital and inevitable, and get into contacts with the United States which will eventually lead to our receiving what is included in the various agreements without any connection to the Arabs. We can do this now, in 1978, even if we are rendered weaker for a certain period. [end recording]

IDF TO RESUME PULLBACK IN 2 WEEKS; PLO CACHES FOUND

TA182056Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Apr 78 TA

[Text] The IDF will carry out another stage in the withdrawal from southern Lebanon in 2 weeks. Our military correspondent 'Amiram Nir reports that IDF forces will consolidate a new line, approximately 10 km north of our border with Lebanon. This is the most substantial withdrawal to date. During this withdrawal the IDF will also leave the areas overlooking Tyre and Ar-Rashidiyah. Our correspondent has learned that one consideration that brought about the decision to accept the UN secretary general's request was the promise given to Israel that the UN forces in southern Lebanon will ultimately number approximately 6,000 soldiers.

The commander of the French contingent on the western front in southern Lebanon said that the terrorists have repeatedly attempted to gain control over areas from which the IDF has pulled out. The UN officer told our correspondent that in the last 2 days his men have captured three terrorists who tried to infiltrate into southern Lebanon, carrying weapons and grenades. The UN soldiers confiscated the weapons and released the terrorists. He said that his men are not checking the identity of those who wish to enter southern Lebanon, and that terrorists may be returning to the area.

IDF officers think that the terrorists left arms and ammunition caches hidden in various parts in southern Lebanon and that if they succeed in returning they could use those arms. On the western front a large ammunition and arms cache belonging to the terrorists was found yesterday. Here is a report by our correspondent Dan Samama: [begin videotape]

[Words indistinct] of arms of many kinds were found by IDF forces in southern Lebanon. War equipment was usually found in bunkers and in basements. Yesterday, IDF soldiers on the western front located another large cache. Here, in this picture, the IDF soldiers are trying to set up the new, Soviet-made Katyusha launcher. Together with the Katyusha launcher, the Soviets also sent instruction manuals and 122-mm Katyusha rockets with a range of 22 km. On one of the missiles we found a message, a note, that the terrorists, members of the Syrian As-Sa'iqah organization, intended to send to one of the northern cities of Israel. The message said: "With regards, from the As-Sa'iqah organization." All the arms seen here were found on a truck in a citrus grove several kilometers south of Tyre.

[Unidentified IDF officer] Most of the ammunition found in this cache was found on this truck, which is an As-Sa'iqah truck. One can see that here is written (Kuwat), As-Sa'iqah. The As-Sa'iqah organization is a Syrian organization.

Here, in the message the word Syria is written. In other words, it can be concluded that this ammunition was received from Syria. The Katyusha found on this truck, their range is 22km, could have been fired at our settlements which are only 3 km from here. One can conclude that they could have fired at our settlements, but did not manage to do so.

[Semama] Also found on the truck were 120-mm mortars as well as explosives and Chinese-made Soviet-made mortar rounds. [end videotape]

PART OF IRAQI BATALLION LEAVES SOUTHERN LEBANON

TA182144Y Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Apr 78 TA

[Text] Some of the 1,000 soldiers of the Iraqi batallion who reached the An-Nabatiyyah area following the IDF operation in southern Lebanon have left the area, returning to Iraq. This has been reported by our correspondent for Arab affairs.

PERES RETURNS FROM U.S., DISCUSSES POLITICAL SITUATION

TA182014Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 18 Apr 78 TA

[From the Evening Newsreel]

[Text] The possibility of reaching political agreement between Israel and the United States in return for Israel's withdrawal from Judaea and Samaria was raised in the talks held between the chairman of the Labor Party, Sihim'on Peres, U.S. Vice President Walter Mondale and other U.S. administration officials. Mr Peres said this a short while ago on his return from an information campaign in the United States. Our correspondent Merom Zur at Lod airport brings us some of the remarks made by Peres: [begin recording]

[Peres] ...between what they term political presence and what they term military presence. Naturally there is more talk about the possibility of a contract between Israel and the United States in return for territories.

[Question] What kind of guarantees? Was this subject discussed?

[Answer] It was talked about in terms of more than guarantees, of something which is almost an agreement. It is natural that this will cost us territories.

[Question] What does this mean? I understand that you talked with Vice President Mondale, with Secretary of State Vance and with presidential adviser Brzezinski. Did they talk clearly about this subject?

[Answer] I cannot use the term clearly, nor can I quote everything they said. However, I must say the following: They say that with certain modifications it is possible to speak about Mr Begin's plan regarding Judaea and Samaria. I have the impression that the major vulnerable point in the plan was quickly grasped in Washington. I mean that when self-rule for the residents of Judaea and Samaria is discussed, it is the 1967 borders which are talked of. It will not help us to bury our heads in the sand. We had better know what others are saying. Such hints were made.

[Zur] Mr Peres commented on the publication of the foreign minister's new guidelines with regard to Israel's stand on Resolution 242.

[Peres] First, I welcome the fact that the government is moving forward according to the lines of Resolution 242. I do not know whether this is already final.

The question that immediately arises is: If it is possible to interpret it in such a way, why was it delayed for such a long while, thus harming Israeli credibility? This is incomprehensible to me. It is also not clear to me, today, whether this is the last stop. The attempt to carry Resolution 242 to the point where both information activity, and perhaps also the negotiations might be better conducted, calls for the question: Why was it necessary to include what we would not do? In doing this we are supporting two contradictory positions simultaneously. This is surely incomprehensible.

[Question] Are you specifically referring to Clause D in the guidelines?

[Answer] I am referring specifically to this, to the announcement that no concessions in Judaea and Samaria will be discussed. It is possible to say that we accept Resolution 242 without adding anything, either positive or negative. If such additions exist, they should be made in the course of negotiations. [end recording]

RESIDENTS OF MARJ 'UYUN DEMONSTRATE AGAINST WALDHEIM

TA182042Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 18 Apr 78 TA

[Text] Approximately 100 residents of the Lebanese village of Marj 'Uyun, north of Metulla, demonstrated this afternoon by the UN camp in the area, to protest against Dr Waldheim's visit to our area.

Waldheim Leaves Israel

TA190645Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 19 Apr 78 TA

[Excerpt] UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim left for New York this morning after a 3-day visit in Israel. Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan bade him farewell at Ben-Gurion Airport. Dayan expressed his satisfaction with the arrangements agreed upon with Dr Waldheim, and his hope that this will bring about a normalization between Israel and those who are living, as he put in, in southern Lebanon.

The UN secretary general said that Israel had put forward a number of proposals regarding the question of withdrawal from southern Lebanon. He said he will submit them to the Security Council, with the aim of bringing about a satisfactory solution in the spirit of Resolution 425. Dr Waldheim confirmed that Israel has announced it intends to make further withdrawals from southern Lebanon.

YOUTH KILLED IN JANIN AFTER FIREBOMBING BUS

TA182134Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 18 Apr 78 TA

[Text] (Sami Sha'aban), a 20-year-old resident of (Buraqin), was killed in Janin today. The youth was killed during a chase after arsonists burned an Egged bus near the building housing the military authorities. Five molotov cocktails were thrown at the bus this morning. Security people who rushed to the scene noticed two youths running away. The two did not heed the order to stop, even after warning shots were fired.

The youth who was killed was found in the possession of a knife and a ski mask. The security forces are continuing with the investigation.

SHAH INTERVIEWED ON HUMAN RIGHTS, OTHER TOPICS

LD171205Y London SUNDAY TIMES in English 16 Apr 78 p 11 LD

[SUNDAY TIMES Deputy Editor Frank Giles interview with shah in Teheran "last week": "Why Iran Feels It Needs No Advice From the West on Human Rights"]

[Text] Iran has grown over the past 15 years into a major political and military power in the Middle East, under the shah's guidance and helped by oil revenue. Recently, however, there have been signs that the economic boom is slowing down, leaving a rising tide of expectations partially unfulfilled. Moreover, there have been in recent months outbreaks of rioting and unrest in several cities, causing outside opinion to wonder whether the shah's regime is as stable as it was thought to be. Last week in his Nivaran Palace on the outskirts of Teheran, the shah gave this exclusive interview to the deputy editor of the SUNDAY TIMES.

[Question] What is the reason for the unrest? Are you alarmed or concerned? Does this present a threat to internal stability or to the regime?

[Answer] No, not at all. What a handful of poor ignorant people did in Tabriz doesn't mean anything. Later, 300,000 people attended a meeting of the party (the single party system set up by the shah) in Tabriz. People really want to show their devotion. The trouble is due to black reaction (Moslem fanatics and backward-looking conservatives) and red revolution (extreme left-wing elements) getting together because they have a common interest in preventing the progress of the country.

[Question] As a result of the political liberalisation programme you introduced a couple of years back, could you say today that there is no torture, no imprisonment without trial, and no active censorship of the press?

[Answer] No torture, for sure. No holding of prisoners without charge. Many cases which used to be heard by military courts now go to civilian courts and only extreme cases of activity against the state are heard by the military courts.

There is no active censorship but we do brief the press about what is or is not against the interests of the country. There are sharp press criticisms, not of the regime as such, which means the royal house--people wouldn't accept that--but of the current state of affairs.

[Question] Was this liberalisation the result of outside pressures, such as President Carter's human rights campaign, or of the evolution of your own policies?

[Answer] Purely internal reasons. There must be a transition between my reign and that of my son, and this means the full participation of the people in the process of government and administration. As for talk of human rights in the West, we could point to so many cases of infraction of those rights by the West. The least I can say is that we have no lessons to learn from anybody.

[Question] You spoke to me four years ago of having made your "political will," meaning arrangements in case anything happened to you. Have you amended that will in any way?

[Answer] Not yet and I don't see that I will ever need to. It is a question of stability and leadership. If I go before the crown prince attains his majority at 20 (he is 18 this year), the empress becomes regent.

Meanwhile the crown prince is being brought up as normally as possible. Later he will be commissioned into the air force and after that I shall try to have long contacts with him, to tell him about my experience. But first he must know the history of his country and of recent times.

As for my abdicating the throne in his favour, when both the country and he are ready I have always considered this. My father had the same idea but was not given the time and opportunity to carry it out. I have always said that when the next two five-year plans are completed, I will be almost certain that the real infrastructure of the country is established. Then we can think of this other thing.

People may not believe me, but everything I do is for the good of the country, and if I do this it will be to ensure a smooth takeover.

[Question] Not long ago you were talking in terms of Iran becoming the fifth most powerful nation in the world. Is this still your view, or has the pace of development had to slow down? Were those earlier plans too ambitious?

[Answer] I don't think I have any reason not to hold to the same beliefs and goals. I was referring to the end of the century when I thought that Iran could become the fifth non-atomic power of the world. We could never compete with the United States or the Soviet Union, or, one day, China.

But among other countries I think we can compare, because by the end of the century we shall be 60 million people and every day we are discovering new sources of wealth, even if the oil will be exhausted by then.

The main eventual obstacle will be the shortage of skilled people in every walk of life. For that, we are feverishly establishing vocational schools, to train our boys and girls for administrative, industrial and agricultural tasks. So I see no reason to discard our ideas.

Of course, the pace has slowed down, and that is natural because the economy was overheated, it was abnormal. For the future, our population is the great hope. At the moment, its youthfulness is a handicap--50 percent of our people are below the age of 15--but maybe 75 percent or 80 percent will be fully and productively employed in the future, and that includes women, who are going to play more and more of a part.

[Question] What is the future pattern of Iran's oil pricing policies?

[Answer] At the moment, there is a glut of oil, but by 1981 or 1982 things will be thirsty for oil. In a few years' time, because our reserves will diminish, so by the law of nature our production will drop. But even then, we could be earning the same revenue, because the price of oil is going to rise.

For the moment, we stand by the price freeze for 1978. For the future, all will depend on the market. The worst thing for us is the erosion of our purchasing power, due to the fall in the value of the dollar--it amounts to at least 20 percent.

[Question] In the expansion programme for the armed forces, to what degree are you dependent upon western technical services for the maintenance of some of the very sophisticated stuff you have bought?

[Answer] Our present programme will require another five years--perhaps more for the navy. Indeed, in both the navy and the air force, because of their sophisticated equipment, we shall go on needing the services of foreign technicians, though not of course forever.

[Question] Relations between Iran and Iraq have improved, but how far would you say that Iraq still has the means and the will to upset the power balance in the gulf?

[Answer] Yes, we do have very good relations with Iraq. It is the only Arab country in the region that might eventually have a population of 25 or 30 million, with enough land and water, and some people say that Iraqi oil deposits are almost at the Saudi Arabian level. Today, they have more planes and tanks than Iran has. Whether they have the will to upset the power balance is speculative. They certainly have the means.

Internal Danger

[Question] You have always put great emphasis on the need to protect the gulf against threats and pressures. How do you assess these threats today?

[Answer] If we have peace in the Middle East, we can check the threat gradually. But if not, if new extreme leftist monsters are created in the region, then there will be a process of radicalisation. The best thing will be if the very rich Arab countries spend their money wisely by developing agriculture and eventually industry. This could provide stability for the whole region.

In the meantime, Iran is showing the utmost goodwill towards her neighbours. They know perfectly well that we have no other aim than to see them remaining independent, happy and prosperous. Iran has no expansionist aims--all that belongs to the past. For the present, the principal danger is internal, in the sense of radicalisation.

As for our relations with our gulf neighbours, on a bilateral basis they are very good and close. They have not responded to our earlier plans for regional defence co-operation. But we are not trying to push for anything. We could add to their stability but they could also add to ours, if they can keep the southern shores of the gulf quiet.

[Question] Has Iran an individual role to play vis-a-vis the darkening situation in the Horn of Africa and southern Africa?

[Answer] These African countries trust us. Anything we can do will depend upon the eventual role which could be assigned to Iran in say 10 years time, when we have a population of 50 million. But whatever we did, it would be the opposite of what the Cubans are doing, which is to destabilise situations.

I am naming no names, but the idea of conquering the world for Communism has not been dropped. If the Western powers could collect themselves and draw a line beyond which they are not willing to retreat, things would be much clearer. Short of world disarmament, which seems to be some way off, there is no doubt that there is a need for better military preparedness by countries with similar objectives. CENTO (the Central Treaty Organisation) is very empty.

[Question] What about Anglo-Iranian relations?

[Answer] I don't ever remember, at a government-to-goverment level, relations being better. But strangely enough, some of your mass media show themselves as though they were our personal enemies. I am thinking especially of the Persian Service of the BBC. Even the TIMES has been very bad in publishing false reports.

These people seem to think that real journalism is to establish contact with the enemies of the country. And then there is this sarcasm, as if they really enjoy imagining Iran in a bad shape and about to disintegrate.

[Question] How do you see the As-Sadat peace initiative and what in your view is the key to an Arab-Israeli settlement?

[Answer] We approve of the initiative. It has shed a completely new light upon the Arab-Israeli affair, with the Arabs as peace-makers and the other side not. In my view, Israel should give back, according to Resolution 242, the land she took from Egypt, Jordan and Syria.

Moslem Sovereignty

People tell me that the crux of the matter is the Palestinian problem. That is true, but it is much easier to solve that problem between the Jordanians and the Palestinians than between Israel and the Palestinians. After all, the Israelis took the land from Jordan and Jordan will know what to do with the Palestinian problem. This is especially true in the light of the fact that there is general recognition that any Palestinian solution must be linked with Jordan.

[Question] Where do you stand on the Jerusalem issue?

[Answer] As Moslems, how can we accept that the Moslem holy places in the city should be in the hands of non-Moslems? And as a Moslem, I am speaking here about sovereignty over those places. I agree that in the end, Jerusalem may be the most difficult part of the whole package, because of the strength of emotional feelings about it.

BRIEFS

MARCH OIL PRODUCTION--The NIOC reported that in March the total Iranian production of crude oil reached 5,575 million barrels per day. According to this report, a total of 4.02 million barrels of crude oil and oil products were exported in March by Iran; 2,980,000 barrels of this total have been sold to the consortium member trade companies. [Excerpt] [Teheran Domestic Service in Persian 1300 GMT 9 Apr 78 LD]

INDIA

CPI-M PROTESTS 'POWERPACK' AGREEMENT WITH U.S.

BK181632Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 18 Apr 78 BK

[Text] The Politburo of the CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] has called upon the union government and the prime minister to openly denounce the 1966 agreeement between the Government of India and the United States on the U.S. nuclear-fuelled powerpack placed on the heights of Nanda Devi.

In a statement issued in New Delhi today, the party also called upon the government to repudiate all such agreements, if any, with any country.

PRESS REACTION TO DESAI STATEMENT ON NUCLEAR DEVICE

BK181540Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1050 GMT 18 Apr 78 BK

[From the press review]

[Excerpt] Here are a couple of editorials on the clarifications given in Parliament by Prime Minister Desai on the existence since 1965 of the U.S. nuclear-fuelled monitoring device somewhere in the Himalayas. Mr Desai has stated that the installation of the equipment has been a joint operation of the U.S. and Indian governments. The test device said to be planted was lost in an avalanche.

The HINDUSTAN TIMES writes: The prime minister has in the clearest language assured, obviously on the basis of information received from the U.S. Government and Indian experts, that great care had been taken at the time against the likelihood of leakage. He has said no cause for alarm on grounds of health or environmental hazard exist. He has added: The fact that no pollution effects had so far been detected will indicate that the safety precautions built into the pack may be effective even now.

All this, says the newspaper, comes as a great relief, more so as Mr Desai has also clarified that the second device planted in 1967 was subsequently removed and returned to the U.S.

The NATIONAL HERALD also remarks that the prime minister's statement should reassure the people of India.

GANDHI APPEARS IN DELHI COURT ON SHAH COMMISSION CHARGES

BK180752 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0735 GMT 18 Apr 78 BK

[Text] Mrs Indira Gandhi and Mr Pranab Kumar Mukherjea, a former minister [of state for finance], both pleaded not guilty of charges under Sections 178 and 179 of the Indian penal code in the court of the chief metropolitan magistrate of Delhi, Mr P.K. Jain, today. The cases have arisen from complaints filed against them by the Shah Commission.

According to the complaints, Mrs Gandhi and Mr Mukherjea have been charged with refusing to take an oath and make a statement before the commission as required under the Commissions of Inquiry Act. When the magistrate read out the charges against Mrs Gandhi, she said she is not guilty and she has not committed any offense. In a written statement, Mrs Gnadhi said she was not legally bound to make a statement at the time the Shah Commission required her to do so.

She reiterated her earlier stand that the appointment of the Shah Commission is an exercise in political vendetta against her. Mr Mukherjea took a similar stand.

The magistrate adjourned the hearing until the 9th of next month for taking evidence and examining witnesses.

Outside the court slogans were raised for and against Mrs Gandhi by the people who had collected there. Some of them threw stones at the police when they were being prevented from entering the court premises. Few policemen and some members of the public received minor injuries.

PAKISTAN

DELHI PATRIOT: PRO-BHUTTO MEN FLEE TO SINKIANG

BK190339Y DELHI PATRIOT in English 14 Apr 78 pp 1, 5 BK

[By our special correspondent]

[Text] Srinagar, April 13--The military authorities in Pakistan have tightened vigilance all along their border following the reported escape of hundreds of pro-Bhutto activists into Sinkiang across Hunza on the Sino-Pakistan border, reports reaching here said today.

Large scale exodus of Pakistan nationals to China was the result of their hot pursuit by the martial law regime, reports added.

Political circles in Pakistan, according to the reports, have expressed the fear that the Chinese authorities might have facilitated the escape of the supporters of the condemned former Pakistan premier.

The number of persons who have thus taken refuge in Sinkiang after eluding the martial law authorities is stated to be nearly 1,000. Pakistani political circles are understood to have held the view that the chief martial law administrator's silence over the recent Chinese appeal to save Bhutto's life has irked China.

According to reliable reports, persecuted supporters of Bhutto are also seeking to flee to India and Afghanistan. It is learnt that small groups of fleeing Pakistanis were recently prevented from intruding into the Indian territory across the Baramula sector in Kashmir valley and Samba, Rajouri and Poona areas in the Jammu region.

Five intruders nabbed during this period are reportedly under interrogation to ascertain the real motive behind their intrusion.

Another report reaching here stated that some Pakistan Army personnel, believed to be loyal to retired General Tikka Khan, had laid down their arms and refused to serve under General Zia. They had protested against the arrest of General Tikka Khan after a pro-Bhutto demonstration at Lahore last month.

It is learnt that the Pakistan Government has urged Bangladesh President Ziaur Rahman to curb pro-Bhutto activities in that country. The Pakistan authorities are believed to have received reports that some supporters of Bhutto have managed to reach Dacca via third countries.

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